



HOWNIKAN

Abtenibne Gises / July 2016

Top Photo: Jeff Martin of the Gun Lake Potawatomi at the Jijak Foundation in Hopkins, Michigan.

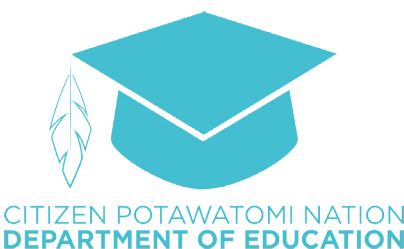
What you need to know about Medicare



CPN Health Services benefits coordinators are available to counsel patients on the details of Medicare benefits.

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Scholarship changes ahead



The CPN Department of Education is set to take charge of a distinct change in tribal sponsored scholarships for tuition, housing and other costs.

Page 3



State of Oklahoma files suit against Rural Water District 3

The State of Oklahoma continues to try to disable the operations of Pottawatomie County Rural Water District 3. A recent lawsuit filed by State Attorney General Scott Pruitt claims RWD3 no longer exists despite an order from the Oklahoma Water Resources Board that expressly found that it does exist. Rural Water District 3 was formed by the Pottawatomie County Commission in 1997, and the legal existence of RWD3 was re-confirmed in 2008.

In response to the state's lawsuit, Rural Water District 3 has filed its own suit in U.S. District Court in Oklahoma City, to stop the State of Oklahoma and its highway department from interfering with the district's waterlines without cause or legal basis.

The state's lawsuit came after Rural Water District 3 workers installed a 300 yard long pipeline along a state right of way, which is under the supervision of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation. The water line was essential to provide water service for businesses in the area. As a state-sanctioned agency, the water district does not need ODOT's consent to use its rights of way. However, it is required to inform the state transportation department of planned work ahead of time, and comply with regulations regarding placement of the line. Despite Rural Water District 3 requesting ODOT to concur in the location of the water line, nearly two years ago, the state agency refused to agree, as required by state law, claiming that it was "uncertain" whether RWD3 exists. This uncertainty could have been cleared up in minutes if the state had spoken with the Pottawatomie County Commissioners who created District 3. With no response by May 2016, and no objection to the proposed location of the water line, District 3 workers began work to extend service to new business customers in Pottawatomie County.

ODOT has been agreeing with District 3's water line locations for over a decade. There is no explanation for ODOT's sudden refusal to cooperate. Contrary to state and federal law, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation is now jeopardizing the district's operations, and threatening cut off more than 1,000 people from water service, along with five schools, many churches, police departments, fire departments and elder care facilities.



Students attended the connection of RWD3 and Dale Public Schools in 2009.

In its filings, the State of Oklahoma argues that District 3 does not meet the definition of an Oklahoma rural water district because it sold assets to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in 2005. At the same time, the state also contends that the sale of assets to CPN was invalid, and therefore District 3 never sold any of its assets. The state's conflicting positions are simply evidence of its bad faith. In 2005, as District 3 hovered on the brink of insolvency and was unable to pay its loans to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, its assets were legally purchased by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. This purchase was approved by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board and Pottawatomie County Commissioners. Though the tribe held legal title to the pipes, pumping stations and other infrastructure, District 3 remained a state-sanctioned agency with its own board of directors, and continued to operate. Part of the CPN agreement in purchasing District 3's assets stipulated that no profit could be realized, thereby providing affordable water to sections of rural Pottawatomie County that were without an adequate source of water.

The Oklahoma Water Resources Board – an arm of the Oklahoma government – also granted Citizen Potawatomi Nation the right to exercise certain managerial control over the district as did the Pottawatomie County Board of Commissioners. As a result of this approval, CPN has exercised oversight of operational issues such as water delivery, billing, and infrastructure upgrades.

The attorney general's office has filed the lawsuit attempting to invalidate the water district. This appears to be part of a larger trend of state-sanctioned legal pressure on CPN assets and enterprises to force the tribe to act as the state's tax collector, a tactic recently deemed unlawful by a federal court.

Despite the April 2016 decision of Arbitrator Daniel J. Boudreau, which ordered state officials to cease attempts to collect state sales taxes at CPN enterprises, and the confirmation of this decision by Federal District Court Judge Robin J. Cauthron, the State of Oklahoma continues to ramp up expensive legal pressure on businesses and organizations affiliated with Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

In the past two years alone, representatives of the Oklahoma Tax Commission, Oklahoma Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement Commission and Governor Mary Fallin's former general counsel have used regulatory and legal actions as weapons against the CPN to try to force their unlawful sales tax scheme.

While the tribe currently oversees District 3's operational and infrastructure costs at an annual financial loss, its service remains a priority for its more than 1,000 customers. Communities like Dale, Asher and Wanette are all served by District 3, while the City of Tecumseh receives a portion of its water needs from the rural water district.

Continued on page 8

Understanding the ABCs of Medicare

By Sheila Scott,
CPNHS Benefits Coordinator

Medicare A, B, C, D, what does it mean?

Medicare A is given to you at no cost if you or your spouse paid sufficient Medicare payroll taxes while working, typically measured by 40 credits, or approximately 10 years work. It is recommended that even if you delay your Part B, you should still start your Medicare A if you are eligible. Medicare A helps pay for hospital inpatient care, skilled nursing facilities, home health services and hospice care as long as certain conditions are met.

Medicare B, also referred to as “Part B,” helps pay for doctors’ services both in and out of the hospital, including outpatient care like lab work and radiology services. It also covers some medical equipment and supplies, such as wheelchairs and oxygen. Medicare B has a premium that is held from your Social Security income. Premiums for new enrollees in 2016 are \$121.80. If you cancel your Medicare B or decide to enroll at a later date, you will have to pay a 10 percent premium penalty, per year, for every year you were eligible but did not take it.

You have a seven month initial enrollment period to sign up for Medicare, which includes the month you turn 65. Essentially, enrollees have three months before and months after turning 65.

If you have “creditable coverage insurance” beyond age 65 from an employer or union group for which you or your spouse are *actively* working, Medicare B can be delayed without a penalty. Once you are no longer covered, you have an eight month special



Tribal health service benefit coordinators are available to advise and educate members on the best options for Medicare.

enrollment period to enroll Part B. This starts the month employment ends or the month you are no longer covered by the employer or union health plan, whichever comes first. If you miss the eight month enrollment window, you will only be able to sign up from January through March.

It is recommended that even if you delay your Part B, you should still start your Medicare A if you have paid in enough quarters.

Medicare C is a Medicare Advantage Plan, also known as an “MA Plan.” A Medicare Advantage Plan is a health plan option that is ran by private companies. Most MA Plans have a network. The two main types of MA Plans are HMOs health maintenance organizations, or HMO’s, and preferred provider organizations, or PPOs. HMOs have a primary care physician. If you need specialty care, you may have to be referred by this physician before your insurance will pay. You pick a primary care physician from a list of providers or one will be appointed for you.

PPOs don’t require a primary care physician, but you will have a network of preferred providers. If you go out of the network with either of these types, you will usually pay a higher cost. MA Plans basically take the place of your Medicare. There are only a few things that Medicare will pay for if you are enrolled in a MA Plan.

Medicare D is a Medicare approved drug plan that help pay for your prescriptions. These are run by private companies, and their premiums will vary. Some have deductibles, but all have copays. Each company has a formulary of approved drugs. You need to review your plan every year during “open enrollment” as premiums and formularies can change. Open enrollment is from October 15 through December 7, with an effective date of January 1.

The last thing you need to know about is a Medicare Supplement, also called “Medigap Plan.” Supplement plans are designed to help fill the gaps that Medicare doesn’t pay and pay after Medicare. There are 10 standard Medi-

care Supplement Plans, but insurers may not sell every plan. Review what each plan covers and choose what best fits your needs. You have guaranteed coverage during your open enrollment period of six months, which starts the first day of your birth month. Supplement premium cost can vary by your age, where you live, the company selling the plan and a host of other variables.

Two things you need to know about supplements are the differences between “Issued Age” and “Attained Age.” Issued age premiums are based on the age when insurance was purchased, and doesn’t go up as you get older. Attained age premiums are based on users’ current age, but can go up as they get older. Attained age premium may cost less at age 65 but may cost more over a lifetime.

Customers should shop around, starting about three months before turning 65 and compare a minimum of three companies.

I advise you not to enroll in anything except Medicare through Social Security Administration until you are sure you are getting what best fits your needs.

If you have more questions or need more help on any of these subjects check with your state’s “insurance department.” Ask for the Medicare Assistance Program and see if they have buying guides in your state. Go to www.medicare.gov. There is a lot of information available that may help you in your decision process. As a service of the CPN Health Services, I am also available for any questions you may have. You can call me at 405-273-5236 or email me at sscott@potawatomi.org.

Gordon Cooper Drive improved with help from tribal, state and local partners

Drivers heading down one of Pottawatomie County’s major thoroughfares will no longer have to worry about pot-hole and construction slowdowns after a successful tribal-state-local partnership to widen South Gordon Cooper Drive on the northern side of Tecumseh.

Tribal Chairman John “Rocky” Barrett, Tecumseh Mayor Eddy Parker, Pottawatomie County commissioners and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation’s Dan Overland joined with members of the Tecumseh Chamber of Commerce to cut the ribbon on the project’s official opening. The road is now four lanes through the CPN jurisdiction between the towns of Shawnee and Tecumseh.

“This is a big day for us, we’ve been anticipating this for a long time and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is proud to be a part of it,” said Chairman Barrett.

The tribe donated \$500,000 to the project, while the Pottawatomie County Commission donated

\$250,000. Federal highway funds covered 80 percent of the construction costs.

ODOT’s Dan Overland was effusive of the collaboration between the various governments that partnered on the project.

“The city, the county, the State of Oklahoma, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, it couldn’t have gotten done without it...the cooperation was wonderful. It has become a model for the State of Oklahoma for a partnership with all the municipalities, the state and the tribes to work together,” he said.

“This is not a project that we did on our own, it was with a lot of effort, and we very much appreciate CPN participating,” said Mayor Parker.

Looking over the completed four lane road, which has widened Gordon Cooper Drive between Bob Crouch Drive and Benson Park Road; Chairman Barrett expressed his enthusiasm for the project’s final product as well as its rapid completion. He noted that the construction and opening all took place within a year. As noted



Mayor Eddy Parker and Tribal Chairman John “Rocky” Barret cut the ribbon opening the new section of Gordon Cooper Drive.

in the newspaper, work on the project began on August 24, 2015, but the road remained open to traffic for the nearly nine months of work.

“It’s an extremely good looking project. We think it is going to be a tremendous boon to commerce and the expansion of the business corridor in the city of Tecumseh,” said Chair-

man Barrett.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation plays an integral role in Pottawatomie County’s road infrastructure. Since 2005, it has spent more than \$7.6 million in road infrastructure improvements and new construction.

NEED HELP KEEPING THE AC ON?

LIHEAP funds are available to assist with air conditioning costs from June 1-September 30.

Contact CPN Employment and Training at
405-598-0797 to learn more.

Household must have at least one person that is a registered member of a federally recognized tribe.

The Potawatomi at Council Oak

The long history of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation contains many way points and historically significant places. One can find historical monuments scattered across the American Midwest along the Potawatomi Trail of Death in the states of Kansas, Missouri, Illinois and Indiana. A lesser known site, now lost to the ages, was the Council Oak.

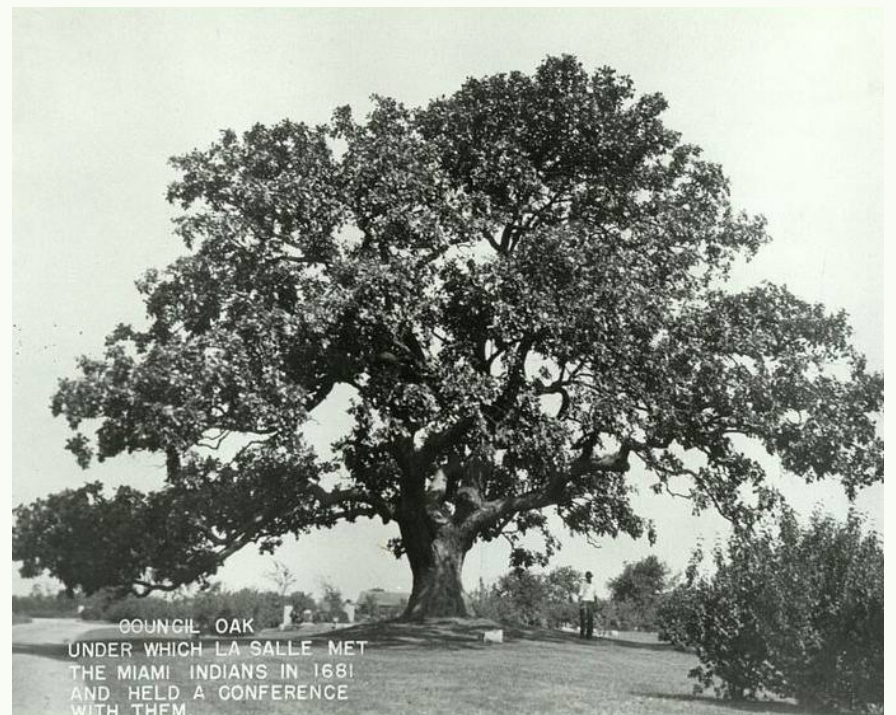
The Council Oak stood in South Bend, Indiana for centuries. Some estimates claim it was at least 100 years or older when Europeans first arrived in the area in the late 1600s. In 1681, the French trapper and trader René-Robert Cavelier Sieur de La Salle called for a council of the Great Lakes tribes in the area to discuss the encroachment of the Iroquois. The council included Potawatomi, the Miami, the Illinois and others. The Potawatomi had a standing relationship with La Salle dating back to the 1679 establishment of a fur trading partnership with Potawatomi Chief Onagises (Shimmering Light).

The meeting reportedly took place under the Council Oak because it was such a pronounced and recognizable landmark in the area.

The treaty granted La Salle freedom of exploration along the Kankakee River, a feeder into the Mississippi River, and the wider areas controlled by the tribes meeting at Council Oak. This right of exploration eventually led to the French claim to the territories known as Louisiana. A later arrival, , married a Potawatomi and established the region's first trading post at modern day South Bend, Indiana. In the, authors from the Federal Writers' Project note that his wife was represented in Potawatomi tradition "as having been exceptionally intelligent."

Soon after the Great Lakes tribes put their issues with one another aside to form an alliance and key French fur traders in order to keep the Iroquois and their allies from encroaching on the fertile fur trapping lands around the lakes.

For the Potawatomi, the meeting at Council Oak was a significant turning point in the tribe's history as well as early colonial American history. This shift in strategy set the stage for tensions and alliances that would lead to several wars in the 18th century between belligerent tribes and French and English colonial forces. The French usually sided with the Great Lakes tribes and the British



The Council Oak in Indiana.

often sided with the Iroquois, though it was not uncommon for the Europeans to play the region's Indian nations against one another when it furthered their causes.

Despite surviving, the tree was finally felled by a tornado in 1990. Today, only a massive stump remains in South Bend's Highland Cemetery. A plaque there commemorates the tree. The Navarre name is still featured in

modern day South Bend, with Navarre Street named after the famous Frenchman, while the family name remains a common one amongst today's Citizen Potawatomi.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION TRANSITIONAL SERVICES

IOWA TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

HISTORY

The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Vocational Rehabilitation Program has provided vocational services to American Indians with disabilities for twenty years and counting, with Transition Services at six years. Our mission is to develop specialized services to American Indian students with disabilities currently making the transition from high school to work or achieving a post-secondary education.

SERVICES WE CAN PROVIDE

We assist with testing fees (ACT, SAT), provide work clothing for new jobs, tuition assistance, assistive devices such as hearing aids, walkers, wheelchairs, eye glasses, along with physical and mental evaluations.

QUALIFICATIONS

You must be a member of a federally recognized tribe, a junior or senior in high school and must reside in on of the Iowa Tribe VR services area counties. You must also provide documentation from your doctor or physician noting your disability.

COUNTIES SERVED BY ITOVR

Kay • Noble • Pawnee • Payne • Pottawatomie • Lincoln • Logan



Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Vocational Rehabilitation

P.O. Box 728 • Perkins, OK 74059 • Phone: 405-547-2402 ext 168 • Toll Free: 1-888-336-4692 • Fax: 405-547-1090
Email Christa Tsotaddle, Transitional Counselor at ctsotaddle@iowanation.org • Find us on the web at www.bahkhoje.com

Native graffiti artist incorporates CPN-inspired portraits into OKC mural

Although it ranks fourth highest in population of Native Americans, Native American cultures and art isn't quite as noticeable in Oklahoma City as places like Albuquerque and Phoenix. Local artist Steven Grounds is hoping to change that and he's starting with a mural in the heart of downtown.

Steven Grounds, a Muscogee (Creek) tribal citizen from El Reno, Oklahoma, chose several portraits of CPN tribal members taken by *Hownikan* photographer Bo Apitz for the mural.

"I saw the portraits of Native Americans on his Instagram and reached out to collaborate with Bo," said Grounds. "I pull photos from his website and recreate them, which is how I chose four of the five portraits I'm incorporating to the mural in downtown Oklahoma City."

The four portraits in the mural are of current tribal director of employment and training, Carol Clay-Levi, and former employee Stacy Coon. Two tribal members, Paige Lechtenberg and Cassidy Grace Holland, were also part of the mural.

Nicole Hatfield collaborated with Grounds on the project and the duo



In the background the portraits painted by Steven Grounds can be seen in between the pillars giving the mural a unique perspective.

titled their project "Strength of the Woman." The title comes from the poem "See the Woman," by Native American activist John Trudell.

The entire mural consists of Hatfield's paintings of women from the past on one end and Ground's artwork based on the portraits and a tribute to John Trudell at the other. The two combined their artistic styles in the middle, where the portrait of Clay-Levi is.

"The maternal aspects represent the idea that the foundation of every tribe and every person is within the women of our culture and the survival of the future generations," said Grounds. "This is our way honoring and respecting the women of our culture."

Since moving back to Oklahoma, Grounds has had the goal of bringing his art to the busy downtown Oklahoma City tourism center.

"It's been one of my goals to do something like this since I got back from Phoenix and it being downtown gave me the opportunity to showcase my work to a large audience," said Grounds. "When I paint, I want it to be an experience for the viewer. I want them to take from me something on a spiritual level when I paint."

The project is funded by the Chickasaw Nation and Downtown Oklahoma City Inc.

The mural will stay up for the next 10 years. To see the work in person, visit the underpass off of E. Sheridan Avenue near Chesapeake Energy Arena and N. E.K. Gaylord Boulevard in Oklahoma City.

VISIT US ONLINE!



CITIZENPOTAWATOMINATION



@C_P_N



CPN HOWNIKAN

Language with Justin: July 2016

By Justin Neely,
CPN Language Director

By the time this edition of the newspaper arrives, it should be *Apte nibne gises* - July. This literally means "halfway through summer months." At the end of July the tribe will be hosting the annual Potawatomi Gathering. This is a gathering of the seven groups of Potawatomi in the U.S. and two from Canada. Here in the language department, it is our responsibility to host the annual Potawatomi Language Conference. The conference will run from Wednesday July 27 through Friday, July 29. We have a great agenda this year and will have presentations from several of our Potawatomi speakers. Some will be telling stories, playing games in the language, doing immersion teaching, instructing on Potawatomi life styles, explaining the common feasts of the *Anishnabek* and conducting many other fun and language filled activities. We hope you will join us for the language conference and Gathering.

Also a reminder, if you want to learn Potawatomi, our 'Beginner 1' and 'Beginner 2' classes are available online with no cost to enroll. They are self-paced, meaning you can go as slowly or rapidly as you want to when learning. Go to language.potawatomi.org and click on the 'Log In' icon which

will take you to a screen where you can create a new account. Give us a day to confirm your application and you'll be good to go. Also, by the time this paper comes out we hope that our online children's course will have been placed online with a link from www.potawatomi.org. We hope you will make it a point this year to learn a little of our language so that we can pass it on into the future.

Shonya - money (shown yah)

Ngot mekwi - one dollar (literally "one beaver hide")

Ngot yasben - one quarter (literally "one raccoon hide") (ngoat yas bin)

Apte mekwi - half dollar (ap tuh muck wee)

Peyses - nickel (Pie sus)

Denses - dime (dan sus)

Meskede - It's expensive. (mes skuh day)

Wenpengde - It's cheap. (win pen guh day)

Zam meskede - It's too expensive. (zahm)

Gégo gishpnedokén! - Don't buy that! (gah go geesh puh nay doe can)

Wégni je ga gishpnedoyen? - What did you buy? (wek nee juh gah geesh puh nuh doe yin)



Zaw shonya is Potawatomi for gold.

Shke dabyan ngi-gishpnedon. - I bought a new car. (shkuh dah bee yawn nuh gee geesh punay doen)

Ni je enadek I dabyan? - What color is the car? (nee juh eh nah duck ee dahbeeywan)

Skebgya - It's green. (skeb geeyah)

Skebgya nmamomedagwendan. - Green is my favorite color. (nuh mah moe muh dog win dan)

Ni jetso ga negdek? - How much did it cost? (nee jet so gah nug dahk)

Noék osek gi negde. - It cost \$7,000. (no ak oh suck gee nuguday)

Ni jetso wiye boset? - How far did someone drive it? (Literally "how many miles does it have?") (nee jet so weeyay bo sit)

Ngot wak osek dbegen. - 100,000 miles. (ngoat walk osuck duh buh gin)

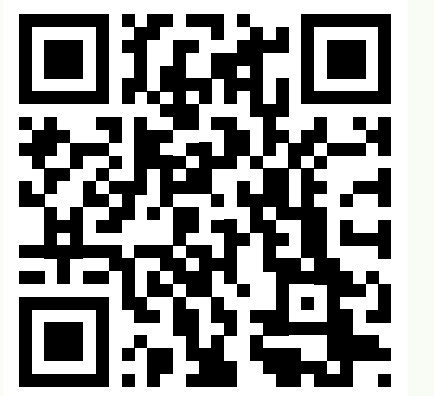
Shonya ne gde-ton? - Do you have money? (shown yah nay gu-day tone)

Basyak mteno. - I only have change. (boss yack mtino)

Nbokshka - I'm broke. (nuh boke shukah)

Gda-dbege ne? - Could you pay? (guhдах duhbaygay nay)

Ni jetso shonya nedwendemen? - How much money do you want? (nee jet so shownyah ned win duh min)



Scan this QR code to enroll in the language class.

Pochedley accepted into award program recognizing tribal youth

Lakota Pochedley, a Slavin family descendent, Potawatomi Leadership alumna and an employee of the CPN Cultural Heritage Center, has recently been recognized by UNITY Inc. in the organization's '25 Under 25' awards. The national organization aims to foster the spiritual, mental, physical and social development of American Indian and Alaska Native youth.

Pochedley is one of only 25 Native American youth to be recognized with this award. The honorees will receive hands-on experiences over nine months that are designed to build on their individual achievements. She said that she is most excited about meeting other Native youth making a difference in their respective fields and learning from them.

"I've been in school for 20 years now," Pochedley said. "This program will provide me an opportunity to learn outside of a school environment and share what's going on in Native America with the youth who live in the Pottawatomie County area."

Although Pochedley only recently began working at the cultural heritage center, she is not new to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. She participated in the Potawatomi Leadership

Program in 2011 and was an intern in the language department in the summer of 2012. During the summer of 2013, she worked at the PLACE and the FireLodge Tribal Youth Program. In 2014 and 2015 she volunteered with CPN's Cultural Mentorship Program. Pochedley recently began a new position as the cultural education specialist as she finished her master's degrees at the University of Texas at Austin this spring.

"I have had the pleasure of working with Lakota in various capacities for almost five years," Cultural Heritage Center Director Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D., said. "I have seen her grow from a college student trying to figure out her thesis project and how it relates to the CPN community, to her current position as cultural education specialist working with local Native youth by teaching culturally-based education workshops. When I saw the criteria for what UNITY was looking for in their '25 Under 25' candidates I knew she would be a perfect choice. She gives of her time and her talents freely and is a great example and mentor for so many of our local young people."

In her role at CPN, Pochedley will help mentor tribal youth on the outskirts and rural areas of the CPN ju-



Lakota Pochedley

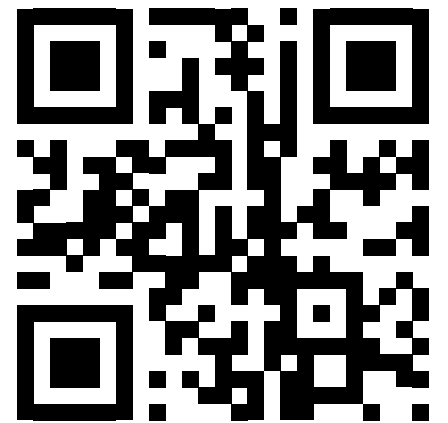
risdiction and train them to mentor others. Pochedley's goal is to use culture as a method of prevention and an opportunity to provide balance in the lives of tribal youth.

"We are trying to build relationships to build a stronger community particularly among the youth throughout Pottawatomie County, allowing a lot of these kids to see past just their school, their block and their city and really get to know one another, from Shawnee to the southern part of the

county. When these kids are grounded in their culture, it shows them they have an opportunity to succeed," Pochedley said.

Pochedley earned bachelor's degrees in Anthropology and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies with a specialization in Native American studies at Columbia University in New York City. After completing her undergraduate degrees, she moved to Austin and completed her Master of Arts in Cultural Studies in Education and Master of Education in Social Studies Education with a secondary teaching certification, while also completing a portfolio in Native American and Indigenous studies in May.

To learn more about the program, please visit cpn.news/25u25.



Potawatomi education update: July 2016

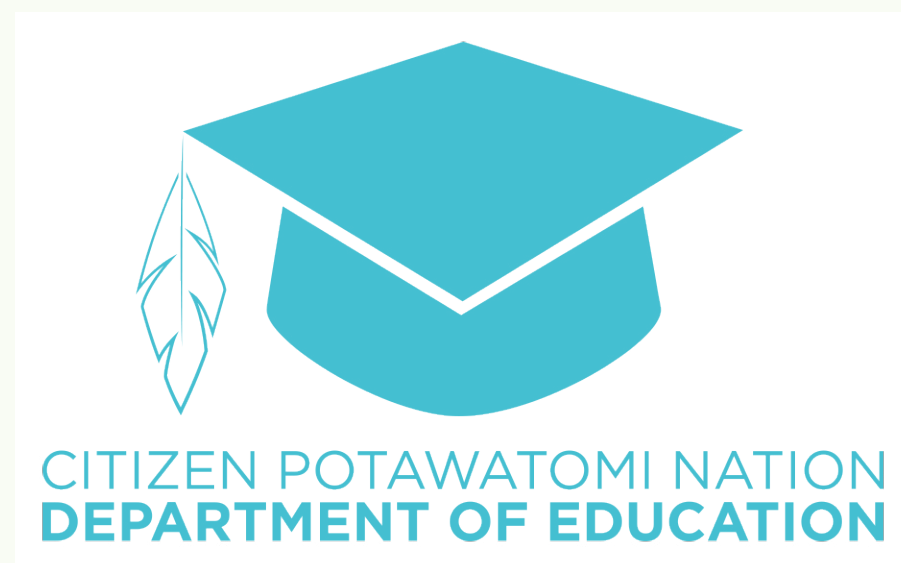
By Tesia Zientek,
CPN Education Director

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Department of Education strives to help tribal members identify and achieve their educational goals, no matter their age or location. We encourage students by meeting them where they are in their educational journey and supporting them in whatever ways they need. These include, but are not limited to, comparing college options, finding available scholarships, reviewing application essays and identifying internship opportunities.

Starting with the fall 2016 semester, the CPN Department of Education will also administer the CPN Tribal Scholarship, a consolidated version of what was previously the tribal rolls, housing, and higher education scholarships. Enrolled CPN tribal members who complete application criteria will be eligible to receive up to \$2,000 (full-time status) or \$750 (part-time status) per semester. To streamline the application process, students can apply via the user friendly student portal at portal.potawatomi.org. The deadlines for the tribal scholarships are as follows:

Fall Scholarship

Application Opens: June 15
Application Closes: September 15



Spring Scholarship

Application Opens: November 15
Application Closes: February 15

Summer Scholarship

Application Opens: March 15
Application Closes: June 15

I have included a list of frequently asked questions below, but if you need more information contact us at the CPN Department of Education.

How do I contact the Department of Education?

The best way to reach us is through email at college@potawatomi.org. You can also call us at 405-275-3121.

Why is the scholarship application process changing?

We want to make the process as streamlined and easy as possible for the students. Instead of completing three separate applications, students will only need to complete one application.

Can I still receive the tribal rolls, housing and higher education scholarships?

These scholarships have now been consolidated into one award, the CPN Tribal Scholarship. For this reason, the tribal rolls, housing and higher education scholarships no longer exist.

Do I have to fill out the application every semester?

Once you have completed your profile on the CPN Student Portal, you will only need to update your information each semester. This will save you from having to enter the same information each time.

Is this scholarship only available for undergraduate studies?

The scholarships cover everything from an associate's degree and beyond, including graduate studies.

What if I'm pursuing a technical degree or certification?

Scholarships for vocational and technical studies will be handled by the CPN Employment and Training Department, who can be reached via telephone at 405-598-0797.

Who will receive this scholarship check?

Checks will be made co-payable to both the student and the university and will be mailed to the address identified by the student on the portal.

Again, if you have any questions, please know our department is here for you. You can contact us at college@potawatomi.org or by calling 405-275-3121.

Microenterprise loans assist Native entrepreneurs

According to the from formal financial institutions. Roughly three quarters of those have no access due to poverty, costs and the burdensome requirements in opening an account or accessing capital.

One remedy to these obstacles came about in Bangladesh in the 1970s, where Mohammed Yunus began what became known as “microfinance” lending. Yunus, an economics professor seeking to find a way to break the cycle of poverty impacting his home country, believed that access to credit was a fundamental human right. In one of capitalism’s most poignant examples of putting one’s money where one’s mouth is, Yunus made a series of small, \$27 personal loans to Bangladeshi basket weavers. Yunus coupled the loans distribution with financial instruction on principles on which the basket weavers would run their burgeoning enterprises, a successful strategy that ultimately lead to the creation of an entirely new lending concept: micro-financing.

As a testament to his success, for his work in pioneering a way for those too financially challenged to access commercial lending credit at traditional financial institutions.

Generally, individuals in the United States do not face the same economic challenges found in 1970s Bangladesh. While the figures are not the same, areas across the nation face remarkably similar economic circumstances when it comes to accessing capital for small business ventures, including many Native American communities.

Following the example of early trailblazers like Yunus, the U.S. De-



Get your small business loan today with the help from the CPCDC.

partment of Housing and Urban Development distributes funds to loan providers serving these communities to promote Native American small businesses. Through an Indian Community Development Block Grant, a microenterprise loan development program is now available for small business owners in Oklahoma through the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation.

The CPCDC secured the funding for the microenterprise loan program to further its mission to promote, educate and inspire the entrepreneurial growth and financial wellbeing of tribal communities.

“This specific loan program meets a critical community need by providing economic opportunities for Native Americans with low and moderate incomes,” explained CPCDC Director Shane Jett. “We do this through financial education, access to capital, business development services and innovative capacity build-

ing practices.”

Specifically geared toward small businesses with fewer than five employees, the microloan funds aim to fund the development, expansion and stabilization of these firms while retaining or creating new employment opportunities for Native Americans.

The program’s success doesn’t only hinge on the ICDBG funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The tribe has contributed \$250,000 of its own capital to the federal government’s initial \$800,000 grant.

“In providing these funding opportunities to entrepreneurs in our local communities, we’re able to directly address low- and moderate-income Native American business owners’ needs when it comes to finding capital to get their businesses going. Consequently this will lead to increased hiring and economic stimulation in our shared communities,” said Jett.

Loan funds are not exclusively for the use of CPN members, but rather are open to small businesses owned by all members of federally recognized tribal nations.

As Jett explained, “There are more than 35,000 Native Americans within the CPN jurisdiction alone, meaning we have a deep pool of current or future entrepreneurs able to access these commercial lending funds. If 10 of those loans help lay the foundation of a successful business in the jurisdiction, which encompasses most of Pottawatomie County as well as portions of Oklahoma and Cleveland counties, the entire region benefits.”

The microenterprise loans aren’t just a loan with little oversight. The CPCDC will help build up the capacity and capabilities of their clients’ businesses through business training and financial counseling services offered by CPCDC staff.

“Our staff has a wide array of small business and consumer counseling experience. We can look at a business plan, point out what will work and help improve what needs improving. Ultimately we don’t consider it a successful loan unless the business succeeds,” said Jett.

To learn more about the CPCDC’s microenterprise loan program, visit www.cpcdc.org or call 405-878-4697.

DO YOU NEED A STORM SHELTER?

Loans from the Citizen Potawatomi HITS Program provide funding for the construction of storm shelters at residential properties.

Apply if you:

- Are a member of a federally recognized tribe
- Are a full time CPN employee with two consecutive years of employment
- Need to improve your credit score
- Are an Oklahoma home owner

CPCDC 

This program can provide up to a \$4,200 loan to build a storm shelter. Visit cpcdc.org/services or call 405-878-4697 to apply!



Get the *Hownikan* via email!

If you would like your newspaper via email, please email your name and address to hownikan@potawatomi.org and let us know.

FireLodge tribal youth update: July 2016

By Darin Greene,
Tribal Youth Coordinator

July is going to be a very busy month at the PLACE. Students who are participating in the GET Native Program will be attending several classes which teach them how to relate to early, modern and traditional Native American ways. Instructions will include on fire use and safety along with traditional native teachings on the cycle of life. Other topics will include Native American authors and heroes; sovereignty and tribal membership; the importance of the sun, moon and stars; the myths and truths about owls; and tribal tradition and honor.

Tribal youth will be visiting the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University for college preparation. While at the universities the youth will have the opportunity to talk with students from the Native American clubs.

Another important program the tribal youth take part in is GET Fit. This July we will be hosting the “Wacky



Tribal youth learned about traditional Native American vegetables during a volunteer day the CPN Community Garden.

Jim Thorpe Games,” which include hoola hoop relays, tug of war and egg volleyball. Navajo Kickball, an all-star native basketball camp, a Native American leg wrestling tournament and a day of fishing are also on the schedule.

Tribal member Kaylee Keith Morrison is preparing to teach a week-long

dance and cheer class. Students will also have the opportunity to go bowling and swimming.

This month, as part of GET Well, the tribal youth start the CART program, which is a collaboration between the tribal youth department and the University of Oklahoma Terrorism and Disaster Center. CART stands for

Communities Advancing Resilience Toolkit and is a theory-based and evidence-informed community intervention program designed to build community resilience during disasters and other adversities.

We are preparing to teach the youth about the importance of wearing sunglasses and protecting skin from the sun for UV Safety Awareness Month.

The tribal youth will observe the following July holidays: National Junk Food Day, National Chocolate Milk Day and National Hot Dog Day with a cookout and hotdog eating contest.

Tribal youth are excited to do community service by working at the Gathering of Potawatomi Nations at the end of July.

If your child is interested in learning more about Native American culture or could benefit from our FireLodge Youth Program, please contact me at dgreene@potawatomi.org.

Cultural Heritage Center seeks assistance in transcribing historic documents

The staff at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center is offering an opportunity for tribal members to volunteer and assist the archives staff while learning more about Potawatomi history by transcribing historic documents into digital text.

There are thousands of written and printed artifacts waiting to be processed by the CHC staff, but there aren't enough hours in the day, so utilizing tribal members and others interested in Native American history creates a win-win for all involved.

Some of the documents are in book or manuscript formats, each of which can contain dozens or hundreds of pages; others are letters and handwritten notes. The CHC

staff will continue to collect more as they visit various archives around the country and receive donations from tribal members.

“Volunteers have the opportunity to learn about the Nation, understand how the CHC serves the tribal membership and public at large and give back to the community by assisting with these critical processes,” said Tribal Archivist Blake Norton, who prompted the initiative. “The application has the opportunity to serve as an interactive digital exhibition on various tribal subjects that we are either unable to display in our galleries or those we would like to expand upon.”

The goal is to create a multi-faceted educational portal and provide the

CHC with the opportunity to interact with the tribal membership. The program also allows tribal members and volunteers the opportunity to work with the Nation's cultural and historical collections. Volunteers will assist staff in processing archival items and learn critical steps taken by CHC staff in managing and making these invaluable artifacts accessible. Vital information gleaned from the transcribed documents is applied to the online archive and manuscript collections database.

Volunteers will experience a portion of the work the CHC staff in the archive and research division does on a daily basis and will allow the cultural heritage center to make this information available to Potawatomi throughout the world.

“I think that volunteers will benefit from having the ability to be part of preserving their tribe's history,” Cultural Heritage Center Director Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D., said. “I was once a tribal member living out of state and I remember how isolating it felt at times. This project is one avenue tribal members can take to engage with and learn a little more about the history of CPN tribal members, whether they are their own ancestors or not.”

Volunteers should refer to the instructions in the graphic to participate in the program. Please take advantage of this opportunity at cpn.news/DocumentTranscription.



Document Transcription Instructions

- To begin, access the Cultural Heritage Center's main web page at www.potawatomiheritage.org.
- Choose the 'Research' tab and click on 'Archives.'
- Here you have the opportunity to either access the archive and manuscript collections database or transcription application. Choose transcription.
- Once the application is accessed, select from various documents including treaties, governmental documents, manuscripts or correspondence.
- Click the document you'd like to transcribe to open it and copy the words into one of the acceptable file formats, like .txt, .pdf, .doc or .docx.
- Once you are done, save the file to your computer with the same title as the document you are transcribing and include your name. Upload the file under “Submit a transcription” and start on the next document.
- Follow this link for video instruction: cpn.news/transcriptionvideo

Eight ways to stay safe on campus this year

By Amanda Chapman,
CPN House of Hope

Though only halfway through the summer, most college-bound Americans are already planning on the back-to-school months ahead. Amidst all the packing, preparing and anticipation though, students should take care to remain vigilant for their own safety, as well as that of their newfound friends, once they arrive on campus. Here are a few tips from our partners at RAINN for navigating the new school year in as safe a manner as possible.

Trust your gut and be true to yourself: If something doesn't feel right, it probably isn't. If you feel uncomfortable in a situation, trust your instincts and leave. Lie and make up an excuse to leave rather than stay and be uncomfortable, scared or worse.

Take control of your online life: Think twice before you share personal information online. Constantly posting social media updates on your whereabouts, activities or even class schedules may allow someone to track your every move.



Be aware and stay alert this year on campus.

Remember this motto: "If you would not share the information with a stranger, then you shouldn't share it online."

Make others earn your trust: The college environment can foster a false sense of security. Don't assume that your new friends will definitely have your back or be looking out for your best interests.

If you see something, say something: If a situation seems questionable, speak up and alert others around you to it. By intervening you can pre-

vent a crime from being committed. Remember, you can always contact your resident assistant or campus police or call 911.

Be aware and stay alert: Whether you are hanging out at a party or walking across campus, pay attention to what is going on around you. Take well-trafficked routes and avoid being isolated with someone that you don't know or trust. Get to know your surroundings — take notice of the blue safety light locations and don't be hesitant to use them if necessary.

Make plans and be prepared: When going out, know ahead of time who is going and plan to stay together as a group. Construct a backup plan for the day or night that you're going out so that all of your friends know where to meet up if someone gets separated or their phone dies.

Party smart: Guard your drink at parties. Don't accept one from people you don't trust or know well. Stick to drinks you prepared yourself. If you happen to walk away from it, get a new one. Keep track of what you've consumed so that you can stay in control. If you feel like you're getting sick or are too intoxicated, ask someone to help you get to a safe place or to a hospital.

Be a good friend: Watch out for each other. Stick together in groups, especially when traveling from one place to the next. If anyone is intoxicated or seems to need assistance, get them to a safe place and support them. If you suspect that a friend has been drugged or needs medical attention because of over-intoxication or for any other reason, call 911.

Tribal employees get out in the field on Earth Day 2016

Earth Day has become a pivotal event around the world, with April 22, 2016 marking the 46th anniversary of the movement that channels efforts towards environmental issues. Tribal nations are amongst the country's foremost leaders in many Earth Day activities given their unique responsibilities as sovereign entities. Citizen Potawatomi Nation is no different in that regard, and tribal employees from across the Nation's departments and enterprises work to clean up areas inside the tribe's jurisdiction.

"We care about the environment, but also the citizens of the community," said Tim Zientek, CPN director of housekeeping and emergency management. "As concerned members of the communities in Pottawatomie County as well as it being an important part of our culture as a native people, the Nation believes that we all must do our part to protect what has been given to us here on Earth."

This year, a total of 44 tribal employees, along with participants



Earth Day volunteers Channing Seikel, Mindee Duffell, Kelley Francen and Tesia Zientek.

in the FireLodge Tribal Youth Program, split into four-person teams for cleanup duties on tribal properties. In just one morning, the teams covered approximately four square miles of roadways in the tribal jurisdiction and picked up roughly 20 cubic yards of trash.

"As an environmental protection professional, Earth Day is a great op-

portunity to get the word out about cleaning up the Nation and prevent littering," said CPN Energy Sustainability Specialist Tara Hammer. "It helps 'reboot' peoples' thinking about Mother Earth in terms of waste when it comes to throwing something in the trash or recycling."

It is not all just cleaning up though; part of the CPN effort involves edu-

cating the next generation. Members of the CPN Department of Environmental Protection taught students at the CPN Child Development Center through a series of activities what was a recyclable and what was not. The youth at the CDC also built bird houses and cars from recyclables to encourage further engagement between the students and Mother Nature.

"The damage caused by humans can only be repaired by us. By doing our part in helping to clean up the environment we hope to not only slow down the damage that has already been done, but also make the community cleaner for all to enjoy," noted Zientek.

If you would like to learn more about the work of CPN tribal members and employees when it comes to environmental protection, please visit <http://cpn.news/earthday2016>.

Rural Water District continued...

In addition to the more than 1,000 homes receiving water from District 3, there are nearly 100 businesses, churches and several volunteer fire departments served by District 3. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has provided more than \$12 million in financial assistance to District 3 since the asset purchase to benefit its members and water customers.

It is unclear what the objective is for the State of Oklahoma here, other than coerce concessions from CPN. It is unconscionable for the state to seek to deprive its citizens of access to water as leverage to force the Nation to comply with unlawful demands. The state government and its support services are still reeling from the latest legislative session, where a \$1.4 billion shortfall resulted in

double digit budget cuts for state agencies. If tribal financial backing is revoked, it is difficult to see the cash-strapped state government step up to assume the costs of the water district's operation. Governor Mary Fallin has not yet commented on the matter impacting her home county.

Federal law protects RWD3 from any state interference with its right and obligation to provide water ser-

vice in its territory. It is important to the Nation that the water district continues to serve its existing customers while also expanding service to those county residents needing quality water service. District 3 expects the federal court to order the state to stop interfering with the operations of Rural Water District 3.

Tribe donates more than \$27,000 to City of McLoud

Tribal leaders met with the City of McLoud to gift \$27,000 of tribal sales taxes to the city from the operations at Quail Ridge Sporting Clays. Tribal Chairman John “Rocky” Barrett and Vice-Chairman Linda Capps were on hand to donate the funds. The clay shooting operation sits on CPN tribal trust land and operates under the U.S. HEARTH Act.

“We appreciate how much the City of McLoud has done as a partner with the Nation,” said Tribal Chairman John “Rocky” Barrett. “The people of McLoud and the surrounding communities patronize this business while the city’s infrastructure and emergency responders are responsible for helping make it successful. These funds are a way to return that investment.”

“We’re going to put the money toward infrastructure that the city needs, including our sewer and water lines that are in need of updating,” said McLoud Mayor Stan Jackson.

The mayor said that CPN and city had been good neighbors in the past due to the proximity of tribal enterprises like the Grand Casino Hotel Resort to McLoud. He said he looked forward to future collaboration as well.

“I really do hope so, because that’s my goal as mayor. We’re always open to hear what Chairman Barrett

and Vice-Chairman Capps have to say. They have been a big help to our city, especially with the upgrades to our park and the Wahpepah Walking Trail.”

City Manager Buck Day affirmed that the city government was working towards infrastructure improvements for the town of 4,500, noting that the long term goal is to grow utility services towards the busy I-40 corridor located inside the city limits. In fact, funds from the sporting clays tribal sales tax receipts gifted to the city have already paid literal dividends. On April 19, a city sewage line collapsed outside the Mable Bassett Correctional Facility, whose sewage service is supplied by the City of McLoud. Day said the city used emergency grant funds from the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, Central Oklahoma Economic Development District and \$35,000 gifted from CPN’s tribal sales taxes to help fix the line serving 1,200 inmates and staff.

“The CPN money was great,” said Day. “Just looking at it from the city’s point of view, that money would have to come from somewhere else.”

Day is a familiar partner to CPN, having served as a Pottawatomie County commissioner during the tribe’s purchase of assets and infrastructure of Pottawatomie County Rural Water District 3 in 2005.



McLoud Vice-Mayor Ralph Snider, Mayor Stan Jackson, City Manager Buck Day, Vice-Chairman Linda Capps, Chairman John “Rocky” Barrett, Deputy City Clerk Jan Sotrie and Kelley Francen.

“I’ve known the Rocky and Linda for years, and to be honest with you I couldn’t ask for anybody to be any more helpful than they have been. Rocky’s ideas and our ideas for the City of McLoud pretty much run parallel to one another. The same thing that we want and think is good for us, he thinks is good for the tribe.”

CPN-McLoud collaboration has been a boost to both entities in recent months. FireLake Express Grocery McLoud, located just north of Interstate 40 on McLoud Road, opened in spring 2016.

“The Nation is very excited for our newest enterprise, FireLake Express Grocery McLoud, to offer services to the city. It’s the first time since the late 1960s when Seikel Groceries closed that they’ve had a grocery store here,” noted Vice-Chairman Linda Capps.

Quail Ridge Sporting Clays is located at 2401 S. McLoud Road (Highway 102 North), McLoud, Oklahoma 74851. It offers several shooting options including 5-stand, Wobble Trap and Sporting Clays. Reservations can be made at <http://quailridgeclays.com> or by calling 405-306-1578.

CPN Veterans report: July 2016



By Daryl Talbot, Commander of the CPN Veterans Organization

Bozho,

The members of the CPN Veterans Organization were invited by members of the Rolling Thunder Motorcycle Organization, who were making their Flame of Freedom Ride, to attend a very special ceremony honoring POW/MIA’s

of Oklahoma from the Vietnam War. The ceremony was sponsored the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma and held at the Mchusuckey Mission Grounds south of Seminole in May 2016. The Rolling Thunder members performed the “Missing Man Ceremony.”

I have seen this ceremony several times, but this was the most moving service I have ever witnessed. They

remembered the fallen and missing warriors by name with dog tags, a ring of a brass bell, a bamboo cage, like those used to hold POWs in Vietnam, a flame burning to represent the light burning at home to light their way and an empty place setting at a table. It was a reverent and emotional event. I doubt I shall see anything like it again.

Those speaking at the service were Leonard Harjo, principal chief of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma; Lewis Johnson, assistant chief of the Seminole Nation; Major General Myles Deering of the Oklahoma Department of Veteran Affairs and the executive director and Oklahoma Secretary of VA; John McKendree, president of Mississippi Chapter of Rolling Thunder; Kay Guynes, president of Oklahoma Chapter of Rolling Thunder; Michael Coon, Mission 22 founder; Rex Hailey, commander of Seminole Nation Honor Guard; Daryl Talbot, Commander of CPN Vet-

erans Organization; Russell Willey, director of Cheyenne-Arapaho Veterans Office; Tiffany Ahgoon, Seminole Nation Princess Event coordinator.

Of interest to veterans is a special exhibit at the Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art at St. Gregory’s University in Shawnee. A tribute to America’s combat artists and fighting forces, the exhibition titled “Art from the U.S. Navy, Marines and Coast Guard” runs through August 21, 2016. It should be well worth a visit.

Remember the CPN Veterans Organization normally meets every month on the fourth Tuesday at 6 p.m. (or as soon as you can get there) in the North Reunion Hall on the Potawatomi Powwow Grounds. All CPN veterans and their families are welcome. A meal is provided.

Migwetch.

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION CHOICE ACCOUNT

We want to hear from you about owning a CPN Choice Account through First National Bank and Trust Co. Take our short online survey at cpn.news/CPNChoice

U.S. Surgeon General visits CPN to support fight against opioid abuse

In an effort to combat the rising tide of opioid abuse plaguing the nation, U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy visited with tribal leaders and health-care professionals during a visit to Oklahoma. Sponsored by the Southern Plains Tribal Health Board based out of Oklahoma City, Surgeon General Murthy visited with tribal youth from across the state at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center for a town hall and discussed prevention programs they are developing in their communities.

“I was so impressed by the young adults we met here today,” said the surgeon general at a press conference following the town hall meeting at the CHC. The IAMNDN Program, which is now being developed in four different tribes...through it the students are using culture as a powerful tool for strengthening their communities and making people healthier. They’re essentially telling people to choose culture over substance abuse.”

The IAMNDN Program is a community and cultural based initiative aimed at bridging the gap between



Comanche Little Ponies Princess Malayna Dinwiddie, U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy and CPN Tribal Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett.

different generations of tribal youth and adults. The program’s focus on developing lines of communications between these generations has been especially important in the effort to curb the growing epidemic of opioid, prescription pill and heroin abuse ravaging Native American communities.

noted that overdose deaths had become an acute problem in the past fifteen years, with the national average nearly quadrupling. Oklahoma is particularly impacted by the issue, ranking fifth highest in the nation for drug overdose deaths according to. Oklahomans face a particularly difficult time getting help in getting

treatment for addiction. In a year in which the state legislature struggled to close a \$1.4 billion budget shortfall, *The Oklahoman’s* Jaclyn Cosgrove noted that the state-funded residential substance abuse treatment program had a waiting line 600 people long.

Before the meeting at the heritage center, Surgeon General Murthy visited the Absentee-Shawnee Health Center in Little Axe, Oklahoma and met with a number of tribal leaders from Oklahoma tribes about these issues. The occasion was a first in American history, with Surgeon General Murthy being the first official in his position to meet with Native American tribal leaders.

“I want people to know that the health of American Indians matters. It matters in a global sense, but it matters for America, because we as a country can’t be strong if our people are not healthy,” concluded Surgeon General Murthy.

CPN welcomes all for Potawatomi Gathering 2016

Each year, tribal members from across the country travel to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s tribal home near Shawnee, Oklahoma to celebrate the Family Reunion Festival. The Festival, held annually during the last weekend in June, is a closed celebration, open only to CPN members and their immediate families. Its first incarnation occurred in 1999, when the old Citizen Potawatomi Intertribal Powwow was discontinued so only CPN members could take part in the cultural and sporting events. In a *Hownikan* column that same year,

Chairman Barrett explained the reasoning behind the shift by explaining that the entire purpose was to build up cultural practices like dancing and drumming for tribal members.

While this CPN-focused event takes place each June, Potawatomi from around the country typically meet later in the summer for the Gathering of the Potawatomi Nations. This event, which rotates between each of the nine Potawatomi bands in the United States and Canada, is an opportunity for all Potawatomi to meet,

share stories and traditions as well as practice their shared *Nishnabek* language.

This year’s Gathering of Potawatomi Nations takes place at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, following on the heels of last year’s successful event hosting by the Forest County Potawatomi of Wisconsin. As with every year, the 2016 Gathering will include a language conference, cultural workshops, language classes, cultural classes and sporting events. The 2016 Gathering will take place in Shawnee, Oklahoma from July

28-30, 2016. Most events will take place inside the fully air conditioned FireLake Arena.

The tribal complex address is 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801 within a short walk of all activities during Gathering 2016. The closest major airport is Will Rogers World Airport in Oklahoma City. Shawnee is located approximately 35 miles east of Oklahoma City along Interstate 40. More information can be found online at gon.potawatomi.org/.

GATHERING OF NATIONS 2016

PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION
Mayetta, Kansas
350 miles

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI
Dowagiac, Michigan
872 miles

MATCH-E-BE-NASH-SHE-WISH BAND OF POTTAWATOMI INDIANS
Shelbyville, Michigan
928 miles

NOTTAWASEPPI HURON BAND OF THE POTAWATOMI
Fulton, Michigan
928 miles

FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI
Crandon, Wisconsin
1,051 miles

HANNAHVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY
Wilson, Michigan
1,079 miles

WALPOLE ISLAND FIRST NATION
Walpole Island, Ontario, Canada
1,099 miles - 1,769km

WASAUKSING FIRST NATION
Perry Island, Ontario, Canada
1,375 miles - 2,212km

SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA

- Home to five area native nations
- Citizen Potawatomi Nation
- Absentee Shawnee Tribe
- Sac and Fox Nation
- Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
- Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma
- Population of 29,857
- 14.2 percent of the population is Native American

Meet the Potawatomi Leadership Program class of 2016

Ten tribal members have moved into the Sharp House near the CPN powwow grounds to begin the Potawatomi Leadership Program. PLP is a six-week leadership and education opportunity for a group of promising college students. PLP learn about CPN government, culture, economic development and more. This year, more than 30 students applied for the program and the selected participants are all beginning their sophomore year of college in the fall. Each of the students explained why they wanted to take part in the summer internship.



Randy Bazhaw

Hometown: Pleasant Garden, North Carolina

School: North Carolina State University

Family: Bergeron

“At NC State, I am currently pursuing a degree in civil engineering, and I believe that the PLP would not only give me the experience of real world problems, but it would also help me determine how I could use my degree that I am earning to give back to CPN. I believe that the PLP would be the perfect experience for me to help me find my place in our tribe, as well as in my life as a whole.”



Thomas Brunt

Hometown: Alexandria, Virginia.

School: University of Pittsburgh

Family: Tescier

“I want to follow in my brother’s footsteps and be a part of the PLP, something that he considered a life changing experience. I hope to gain a better insight into my tribe, leadership skills, better communication skills and gain professional skills to prepare me for the future. I want CPN to play a bigger role in my life and I hope to do that by being a part of the PLP.”



Matthew Clift

Hometown: Cushing, Oklahoma

School: East Central University

Family: Kennedy

“I hope to get more in tune with my Potawatomi heritage and the culture of the Potawatomi Nation itself. Along the way, I would love to learn how I can help myself and maybe others become better leaders. A true Potawatomi to me means to be noble and honest with people for the sake of self-sacrifice. Those are both pillars of my personality traits that I can nurture and make me the man I hope to be. The PLP is the first step to a long and enduring journey.”



Aden Eilers

Hometown: Lake Oswego, Oregon

School: Oregon State University

Family: Anderson

“I intend to make the most of the PLP. I am going to absorb as much information as I can while I am in Oklahoma. There are a few specific things that I am hoping to learn more about. The first is the tribe itself. I am going to learn all about the tribe’s history; in addition, I want to finally get my Potawatomi name. My dad went through the ceremony a year ago and it will be great to finally get my name too.”



Alyssa Frey

Hometown: Manhattan, Kansas

School: Kansas State University

Family: Denton

“Through the PLP I hope to gain friends who share my Indian background. This would give me, and them, the opportunity to grow and learn with each other. I also hope to attain a greater knowledge and appreciation of our background. Since the students that attend the PLP come from all over, I would have a chance to learn and study leadership techniques from different perspectives.”



Zoe Gustason

Hometown: Tombstone, Arizona

School: Sierra Vista Cochise Community College

Family: Rhodd

“Being Native American is, in all honesty, an honor to me. I feel like I am a part of a bigger part of history when I tell someone that I am Native American. This program would give me that opportunity to not only learn and discover a part of myself that I feel that is missing, but also be able to become a leader for others by providing answers and sharing with other people my culture when they ask me what it means to be Potawatomi.”



Sage Hanson

Hometown: Tempe, Arizona

School: Arizona State University

Family: Zeigler

“The PLP interested me for several reasons; it’s a chance to understand my tribe’s culture, step outside of my comfort zone and improve myself as a person. My time at the leadership program will also put me in closer contact with the tribe and help me to better understand how it works in my community to help people. Ultimately what I hope to learn is how to better connect with people and to better connect people to each other.”



Susannah Howard

Hometown: North Thetford, Vermont

School: Smith College

Family: Frigon

“I have found it difficult to live outside of Shawnee and be a Potawatomi because very few people in the northeast share this heritage with me. It is a unique situation, though, because I am in a position to educate others about the tribe and be a voice outside of Oklahoma. I think bringing more of the Potawatomi traditions into family celebrations would encourage my family to be more active and interested in the way the tribe operates and might prompt them to follow in my footsteps and reach out to people and get to know more people who share our heritage.”



Katherine Smith

Hometown: Simi Valley, California

School: Moorpark College

Family: Anderson

“Ever since my older brother, Nick Smith, attended the PLP in 2014, I have been wanting to experience the program myself. He came home with such a different outlook on life, the tribe, and our Potawatomi culture; my brother’s experience is certainly part of why I have decided to apply for the program.”



Aaron Stevenson

Hometown: Albuquerque, New Mexico / Tahlequah, Oklahoma

School: Oklahoma State University

Family: Bumbaugh and Yott

“I have high hopes for my experience with the leadership program. I feel this program would aid my leadership capabilities immensely. Additionally, I would like to learn more about the culture and history of the Potawatomi people and tribe. I really enjoy studying history, and I feel this would be a great opportunity to learn more about the past and how the tribe operates. This program is clearly a fantastic opportunity to achieve this.”

Please welcome these students to the area when you come into contact with them this summer. Find out more about PLP at <http://plp.potawatomi.org>.

Wadase update: July 2016

By Bree Dunham,
CPN Eagle Aviary

Spring in Oklahoma can certainly live up to the old saying that it comes in like a lion. However, we were fortunate that most major storms seemed to pass by the aviary or dissipate before they arrived. This spring rain, unlike last year's record breaking rainfall, was just barely above average and was spread out enough so that we did not flood here. Last spring we missed out on seeing so much of the beauty that is spring, but not this year. This has been a productive season for the wildlife that surrounds the aviary.



*The red-shouldered hawk
in search of frogs.*

Young great-horned owls have already fledged and are a regular sight each evening as they hunt in the open pasture. If they aren't seen, they are always heard as they screech loudly, following their parents and begging for food every chance they get. One young red-shouldered hawk routinely visits to chase frogs where the water puddles after the rain. On warmer days he bathes in the

puddle. The hen turkeys have finally started to bring their young out into the pasture. They have discovered the community garden and often, during the heat of the day, can be seen wandering through the rows where the garden soil is moist and cool. It also contains the added bonus of plenty of bugs to hunt. We have even seen young fawns hidden in tall grass of the pasture. Generally around midday, the doe will emerge from the tree line and disappear into the grass and bring her fawn out to nurse before disappearing to hide the fawn again. We have been so blessed that spring has been kind to us here at the aviary and as the first day of summer quickly approaches, we hope summer will be just as kind.

One thing we have yet to see this spring though is Wadasé Zhabwé. However, we are able to see her movements as we follow her telemetry because, against all odds, she is still wearing her GPS backpack. Since the second week in February she has stayed just 15 miles northwest of the Quapaw Creek Reservoirs. In total, 38 flood control dams were constructed in Lincoln County in the 98,000 acre watershed. Two large reservoirs were created for municipal water supplies and recreational areas while the rest are much smaller; together they create nearly 500 acres of wetlands.

One thing we know for sure is that wetland areas are full of wildlife and food for bald eagles. After her last visit to the aviary on February 9, Wadasé stopped at one of the reservoirs just north of HWY 62. She seems to have made several of those reservoirs in that area her 'home base' for the time being. She has made multiple trips back to her old familiar places along the North Canadian River near Harrah and McLoud, but after a two or three day fly about, she returns to the reservoirs.



One of the fawns at rest in the aviary pasture.

We have also made several trips to the Quapaw Creek Reservoir area to look for her but all we have seen was several miles of Oklahoma back roads that we hadn't traveled before. Once again Wadasé has chosen an area that has limited access from the public. Most of these reservoirs are on large tracts of land used for grazing cattle or farming. After talking with several landowners in the area, we learned that many are stocked with fish as well. This is the first time that she has spent an extended period of time off the river. The reservoirs she visited that we were able to access are small and were referred to as ponds by the landowners. Perhaps she has chosen the area because of the food source and there is very little human interaction or because it is central to some of her favorite hangouts.

It is hard to know for sure, but what we do know is that the area is lush and green this time of year and that ensures she has food and cover. The movement recorded by the telemetry is always reassuring though. Once again after this year's young migratory bald eagles fledged and left for their summer territories, Wadasé

stayed. I think we can safely say that she is going to continue to stay in Oklahoma.

When this summer comes to an end Wadasé should choose a mate and with some luck we will still have telemetry to find the site they choose for nesting. Of course, we hope that she would bring any potential suitors home to visit and survey the real estate here again before choosing a nest site. In any event, we are confident that she has mastered the skills she needs to thrive in the wild and will be able to pass that on to her future generations.

As always we encourage you to keep your eyes out for Wadasé if you are near the areas she frequents. If she sticks to her routine, she should come home to visit soon. For more information about the CPN Eagle Aviary or to read previous Wadasé updates visit www.potawatomiheritage.org. Send your encounters with Wadasé or any other eagles in Oklahoma or wherever you may be to us at aviary@potawatomi.org.



*In the evenings, the deer and their
fawns venture into the pasture.*

Potawatomi children in need of foster parents

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Indian Child Welfare Department knows first-hand that circumstances sometimes require a child be temporarily or permanently removed from a situation. When the unthinkable happens, the CPN ICW staff looks to find the most caring and safe solution for these children. Currently, 33 CPN children from the area are in the custody of CPN's Indian Child Welfare department. To ensure these children are placed into caring environments, ICW is in need of full-time tribal foster families in Pottawatomie County and the surrounding areas to provide homes for children who are no longer in the care of their parent.

When a child is taken into the custody of the CPN Tribal Court, ICW must find a safe, loving and nurturing home for them. Staff members of the department try to avoid placing these children in an emergency shelter; however, they have had to resort to that option when no tribal foster homes were available.

"Currently, all of our tribal custody children have foster home placements," said Darla Courtney, ICW's

foster care and adoption specialist. "However, that situation can change at any moment. We have 15 homes that are approved as foster homes through CPN. At present, most of our foster homes are at full capacity and unable to take additional children."

The need for local homes stems from the fact that the majority of the children in the custody of the court have frequent visitation with their parent or grandparent as well as other local appointments, including counseling and medical visits. Because the majority of services are local, it often presents a hardship for all involved when the children are placed in out-of-area foster homes.

"Our biggest need is additional foster homes in our local area. We need families willing to open their hearts and homes to provide full-time foster care, especially for older children and sibling groups," Courtney said.

When siblings are taken into custody, the staff makes every effort to keep them together during such a difficult time. Without an adequate number of foster homes available, the siblings

may have to be separated until another placement can be located.

The ultimate reason in recruiting additional foster homes is to ensure tribal children have a safe environment and stay connected to their tribal culture and heritage.

For those who would like to help these children but cannot commit to long-term care, ICW can utilize homes willing to provide short-term care. For example, foster homes may need someone to watch their foster children for short periods, such as for vacations or to tend to an illness in the family.

When a foster child is not able to return home, it is the responsibility of ICW to find a permanent home for the child. There is currently a waiting list of families wanting to adopt. Courtney explained that most families desiring to adopt understand the risk of becoming attached to a child while doing foster care and do not want to experience the heartbreak of a child leaving their home. However, many foster families often develop such a strong bond with the children

in their home that if the child does become legally available for adoption, they may choose to adopt.

It is extremely rare for a child to come into ICW's custody and be immediately available for adoption. The majority of children are in foster care for quite some time while their parents work through a treatment plan and toward reunification of their family. Should the parents fail to achieve reunification and have their rights terminated, then the children become available for adoption.

Individuals and families who are interested in fostering will receive a packet which includes the ICW Handbook for Placement Home, application and background check forms. A series of background checks for all adults living in the home will be performed and a visit will be scheduled.

Any individual or family wishing to become a foster home with CPN can contact the ICW department at (405) 878-4831.

PROTECT A POTAWATOMI CHILD'S DREAM BECOME A FOSTER PARENT



To preserve the culture of our Native children, tribal foster homes are desperately needed in Oklahoma and throughout the United States.

Many of our tribal children are placed in non-native homes when taken into state custody due to the lack of foster families.

With the Indian Child Welfare Act under attack and scrutiny, it is vital, now more than ever, for tribal children to have initial placement in tribal foster homes.

If you are an Oklahoma Resident willing to open your heart and home to our children in out-of-home placements, please contact our office for an application packet.

For those living outside of Oklahoma, contact our office for further information on becoming a tribal home in your state of residence.

FireLodge Children and Family Services
405-878-4831 | 1-800-880-9880

Hownikan

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma

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The *Hownikan* is published by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and is mailed free to enrolled tribal members. Subscriptions for non-members are available for \$10/yr. in the United States and \$12 for foreign countries. The *Hownikan* is a member of the Native American Journalists Association. Reprint permission is granted with publication credit to the *Hownikan*. Editorials/letters are subject to editing and must contain traceable address.

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Tribal Chairman - John "Rocky" Barrett

Bozho, Nikanek (Hello, my friends,)

Today is a milestone in the history of the CPN. It is also one of the most joyful I have experienced as Tribal Chairman in the last 30 years. We finally won.

On June 17, 2016 Federal District Court Judge Robin Cauthron ruled in favor of CPN, which enforces the arbitration award issued by former Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Daniel J. Boudreau in the State of Oklahoma's case against the tribe that has lasted for years. This award has the elements in it, now that Federal District Court Judge Cauthron has confirmed it, that can finally end 32 years of unlawful and racially biased harassment

through state taxation, state agency litigation, regulatory manipulation, unlawful prosecution, license suspension, extortion, personal persecution and deliberate obstruction.

In the last four years, this reign of terror has escalated to an unbearable level under Governor Mary Fallin, recently touted as a potential running mate for Donald Trump. We have been forced to spend nearly \$1.5 million in outside attorney fees and some \$500,000 on in-house costs for expert witnesses and our tribal attorneys salaries. While this is a terrible waste, the cost of us losing would have been worse. It could also have impacted every tribe in the state.

Judge Cauthron is considered a conservative and experienced federal judge with a reputation for fairness and scholarly legal adjudication. She sternly prompted the Oklahoma State Attorney General's staffers at the beginning of the hearing with the statement that she had "read all of the briefs, so there is no

need to re-argue these points. Does either side of this issue have any new points to make under the law?"

These two young men exchanged long looks before one stood to address the judge.

There were four parts to the State's case:

1) They wanted the arbitration award vacated. In other words, they wanted to start the whole litigation process, three years old, completely anew.

2) The state argued for this new trial and vacation of the award by saying Judge Boudreau exceeded his powers by not limiting the award to issues only mentioned in the gaming compact. This was ironic, since it was the state that brought grocery store taxes into a dispute over the casino compact in the first place. The state was trying to hold our liquor licenses hostage to force us to pay taxes at the stores and other tribal businesses. This direct taxation issue was heard in a case they had lost back in 1991.

3) The state said that the word "right" to sell alcohol was not in the compact but was mentioned in the arbitration award. This was a foolish attempt to find fault since Judge Boudreau's reference was only to the "right" to sell alcohol under the compact rules and state law, not an inherent right.

4) The state wanted a de novo (new) review of the award. In other words, they did not want to honor their agreement to arbitrate disputes under the Model Gaming Compact, now 11 years old. This is pure bad faith. The state winning this point could mean that every compact dispute between the state and any of the 39 tribes in the state that went through the lengthy arbitration process in the future could have that decision set aside if the state lost. The state would get a brand new trial in a federal court, after more years of delays in state court and millions of dollars spent in legal fees paid out by the tribes. Worse, this would negate the mutual sovereignty waivers contained in the Oklahoma

Model Gaming Compact. The state could violate the compact and claim immunity from suit. So could a tribe. This would trigger chaos, the result of which would be a flood of litigation that would fill the federal courts.

Then, in an unusual action for a state vs. tribe lawsuit, Judge Cauthron verbally ruled from the bench in favor of the arbitration award. We have received the written ruling at CPN, and I am overjoyed. We have some legal work in front of us to extend this ruling to the other lawsuits the state has in front of us, but it is a powerful tool.

This is wonderful news that will affect our tribe for generations to come. I am grateful for the honor of serving as your Tribal Chairman.

Migwetch,

John "Rocky" Barrett

Keweoge

"He leads them home."

Tribal Chairman



Vice-Chairman - Linda Capps

Overtime compliance review

"Overtime" has been a buzz word for the tribe in recent weeks. It is being discussed by our human resources department, by administration and by the employees. This is because it has been on the television news, in the newspapers and on the Internet on a regular basis.

In May 2016, the U.S. Department of Labor, or DOL from hereafter, announced the details of the final rule of overtime expansion updating the standard salary level, also known as the salary

threshold to \$913 a week or \$47,476 annually for workers. This action which falls under the Fair Labor Standards Act of the DOL is expected to extend overtime pay protections to an estimated 4.2 million workers throughout the United States who are currently exempt. Dec. 1, 2016 is the date for which employers must begin to comply.

What does this mean to CPN and other employers? In plain language it means that those workers who are now considered exempt from overtime may no longer be exempt. Any employee who makes less than \$47,476 per year or \$913 per week will be considered an hourly employee. An hourly employee must be paid time and one-half for every hour worked over 40 hours per week.

The current threshold is \$23,660 or \$455 per week. Employees making this amount are presently exempt

from their employer paying overtime. This is a huge change! Our HR staff members have been busy calculating how many employees will be affected by the change. They have calculated how many employees we have in certain salary ranges, how many overtime hours the average employee in that particular those salary ranges make per week, per month and per year. They have calculated how many overtime hours that CPN presently pays and how many overtime hours would be paid in comparison with the new salary threshold.

Both our HR employees and our accounting staff have attended conferences and webinars for several weeks. Employers of both small and large businesses all over the country are bracing for the new regulations. The CPN administration is closely tuned in because we must be in the planning phase regarding FLSA mandates. I even

had District 3 Legislator Bob Whistler contact me about the new law. I appreciate Legislator Whistler's concern because he, too, realizes the impact for CPN.

Our tribe will be looking at ways to offset potential overtime costs. One obvious solution is to increase the pay of those employees who are very close to the \$47,476 new salary threshold. For those who are still classified as hourly wage employees, we must watch the overtime very closely. With nearly 2,300 employees, a prudent oversight is to scrutinize overtime. With departments and enterprises like the tribal police department, grocery stores, casinos, maintenance and housekeeping, holding down overtime is not an easy task.

One thing is for sure, when the government throws our tribe a curve, we will always work hard to straighten it out. In the long run, the new

overtime rule has its good and bad points. The government calls this \$47,476.00 threshold a "white collar" exemption. The salary guideline will be looked at every three years for updates. Please know that your tribe will strive to be fair with the employees at every turn. We value their work ethic and diligence to a high degree.

Thank you for allowing me to be your vice chairman. We have a great summer to look forward to as we visit with our Potawatomi families from near and far at Gathering this July.

Migwetch,

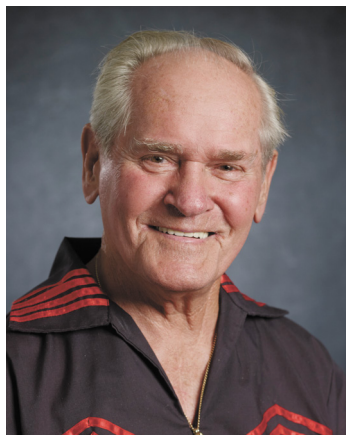
Linda Capps

Vice Chairman

lcapps@potawatomi.org

GATHERING OF POTAWATOMI NATIONS

HOSTED BY CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION IN SHAWNEE, OK - JULY 28-30, 2016
THE LANGUAGE CONFERENCE WILL RUN FROM JULY 27-29, 2016



District 1 - Roy Slavin

Bozho Nikan,

First a few words about our District 1 and 4 joint meeting. District 4's Jon Boursaw represents the state of Kansas. My district is everything east of the Kansas-Missouri border and north of West Virgin-

ia. It seems like a mismatch but the districts are laid out by CPN member population, meaning all of our legislative districts have the same number of CPN members, basically.

As always, we honored our wisest, youngest and farthest traveled members. Our wisest member in attendance was Mary Pricket of Rossville, Kansas. I hesitate to mention a lady's age but Mary is 91. Our newest member at the meeting was 13-month-old Abigail Ellery Jones, a Vieux family descendant. The member who

traveled the farthest was Myron Williams of Rogers, Arkansas, brother of one of our guest speakers, Wanda Goodnow.

Guest speakers were Bill Thorn, director of health services for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and Wanda Goodnow, an author. Wanda's book "Autobiographies and Biographies" is a collection of old photographs purchased over many years both online and at regional auctions. Using her vivid imagination she wrote stories about the people depicted in the photographs. This is definitely a coffee table book.

While on the subject of our district meeting, I feel I need to talk about RSVPs. We always ask for an RSVP if you intend to attend. This is because we serve lunch at the meeting and have to order food. If you RSVP and then something comes up and you can't attend, please, please, let us know if at all possible so we can change the food order.



Roy Slavin and Myron Williams.

This meeting was held at the ARARAT Shrine in Kansas City and all proceeds of the meeting went to neglected and abused children. For that reason I will be using them again for my Kansas City meetings. As an ex-court appointed special advocate for neglected and abused children, I know how much that means.

Your CPN color guard participated in the second annual massing of the colors ceremony in Topeka, Kansas. The ceremony is dedicated to the memory of military ser-

vice members who have given their lives in the nation's defense. It also honors those who have served and are currently serving in the armed forces. Our color guard consist of myself (Army) Jon Boursaw (Air Force) and Lyman Boursaw (Army.)

I may be reached at 1-888-741-5767 (toll free) or by snail mail at 6730 Tower Drive, Kansas City, Missouri, 64151.

*Migwetch
Netagtege (Roy)*



Mary Pricket and Roy.



District 2 - Eva Marie Carney

*Bozho nikanek
(Hello friends)!*

I hope you are well and the summer season brings you time outside with loved ones, friends and our natural world. I, for one, am hoping to spot a soaring eagle or two this summer. You may know that the eagle is very special to the *Bodewadmi* people; it is said to be the bird that flies closest to the sun, continuing to carry word to the Creator that we *Bodewadmi* are putting down *sema*/tobacco, keeping the sacred fire, and maintaining our traditions. I've included a work from CPN artist Penny Coates capturing an eagle's perspective on our people.

I hope each of you at some point will have the chance to visit the CPN Eagle Aviary, to spend time with the eagles who are entrusting us with their care. We opened the aviary in 2012. Our Nation has the authority to distribute these eagles' feathers and in the future we will not have to rely on the U.S. government to furnish us feathers (and will avoid an application process that rankles, as it inserts

the U.S. government into our traditional practices). I write "in the future" because the pent-up demand for feathers means that currently (as of mid-2016) applications for aviary feathers *far exceed* the amount of available, molted feathers. But we will catch up with the birds' help. In late 2015 Vice-Chairman Capps placed a note in the *Hownikan* explaining that there currently are delays in fulfilling aviary feather requests due to the demand. So please be patient!

For now, I suggest that you continue to request eagle feathers from the U.S. government if you are in need of feathers for ceremony (your wait will be six months for 10 eagle feathers). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service application forms and permitting process can be found at: http://www.evamariecarney.com/documents/eagle_feathers.pdf.

You also may find helpful the eagle-related information posted to www.potawatomi.org, under the 'Culture' tab. Included are a CPN Eagle Permit Application and a note from Chairman Barrett describing traditional care and use of eagle feathers. See potawatomi.org/culture/eagle-aviary.

It also may interest you to know that you no longer need to carry a permit when you travel with your feathers within the United States.



Penny Coates' drawing of the Potawatomi tale "How Eagle saved mankind."

Late in 2012, the U.S. Department of Justice issued rules that eliminate the permit requirement. With the explanation that "*The [DOJ] is committed to striking the right balance in enforcing our nation's wildlife laws by respecting the cultural and religious practices of federally recognized Indian tribes with whom the United States shares a unique government-to-government relationship,*" the rules now state that a member of a federally recognized tribe may generally, without a permit, possess eagle parts, possess, carry, use or wear the feathers or parts of federally protected birds, travel domestically with federally protected bird parts, and pick up naturally molted or fallen feathers found in the wild, without disturbing federally protected birds or nests. This means that even if you do not have a feather permit you may keep feathers that you are gifted or find in your travels.

As described in a DOJ summary of tribal consultation, government control over eagles was called into question at a 2010 summit convened by the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs. Harvey Spoonhunter, then the chairman of the Northern Arapaho Tribe, asked attendees to consider that even during the Prohibition Era, churches could use sacramental wine and "didn't have to wait five years to get it like we do to get eagle feathers" and did not have to apply for permits to drink the wine as part of their religious ceremony. All of this notwithstanding, when I travel with my feathers to our Festivals and Gatherings, my personal practice continues to be to pack with the feathers the feather permit I was issued by the U.S. government, along with my CPN Eagle Feather Permit signed by Chairman Barrett, just in case I run into an uninformed TSA employee during my carry-on bag

search. I do not want to risk losing the eagle wing fan and lady's fan that are very important to me.

I'd also like to congratulate Bruno family member Zachary Olynik of Chesapeake Beach, Maryland on his recent graduation from Huntington High School. Congratulations to all the graduates this spring, and don't forget to send your December graduate announcements to graduation@potawatomi.org before November!

Thank you for the honor of representing you. Please call or write me with any questions or requests, and, if you are not yet a participant, send me a note to join the District 2 private Facebook page and my email list, through which I send information and notes periodically during the month.

Bama pi/until later,
Eva Marie Carney
Ojindiskwe
(Bluebirdwoman)
Legislator, District #2
ecarney@potawatomi.org
NOTE NEW
MAILING ADDRESS:
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1-866-961-6988
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Bozho Nikanek (Hello friends),

At the end of this month we will be hosting the Gathering from July 28-31. If you read my May column, you'll recall that I wrote about the community garden that has

District 3 - Bob Whistler

been planted near our aviary. In the article, I told you about the Three Sisters. To us the Three Sisters refers to corn, beans, and squash being planted and/or eaten together.

The reason that the Gathering is important to all of us is that it is a great way to learn more about CPN, but some of the idiosyncrasies of the other eight Potawatomi nations.

Last month, I had the opportunity to go to District 5 to visit several U.S. parks. While there I was in the Arizona/Utah border area that



The Navajo's three sisters.

is the Navajo Reservation which includes Monument Valley. I learned on that trip that the Three Sisters to the Navajo is a very special area in the valley. I am including a photo of that beautiful site.

The Three Sisters that the Navajo have is culturally very important to them and I know that the Creator made this valley for them to visit and appreciate his fantastic creations. This valley is awesome! I recommend you visit it if you have the opportunity.

The Gathering may possibly teach you something about

one of the other Potawatomi nations. It could be a particular craft, regalia, a different way to do something, or a new Potawatomi word. I hope to see you there.

Bama pi, (later)

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District 4 meeting in Wichita, Aug. 27, 2016: I will hold a District 4 meeting at the Mid-America Indian Center in Wichita on Saturday, August 27, 2016 at 10 a.m. The Indian Center is located at the intersection of Seneca and Central Avenues in Wichita. The meeting is open to all CPN members but invitations will only be mailed to the members living in the greater Wichita area and the south central and southwestern counties of Kansas. I am prepared to conduct a naming ceremony immediately following the meeting on the grounds of the center.

District 4 - Jon Boursaw

For those who would like to be named and have already received a naming questionnaire, you need to return it to me as soon as possible. For those who would like to be named but do not have the questionnaire, please contact me as soon as possible.

Senior support staff: Don't forget the nurses in Rossville are continuing to offer a foot care clinic on the third Thursday of each month from 1-3 p.m. They are not making appointments, so it is a first come, first served basis. I continue to hear nothing but positive comments about the services Tracy and Pam are providing to our seniors. If you want more information regarding the array of services and programs they offer don't hesitate to contact them at 785-584-6171.

Seniors' potluck: The Senior Support Staff also sponsors a potluck luncheon on the second Friday of each

month in the CPN Community Center. Contact Tracy or Pam for more information or simply to RSVP for the next luncheon.

Suspected Native American burial site – update: I have been informed by the Kansas state archeologist that he considers the case for burials on the plot of land in question to be pretty weak. Therefore he is not going to pursue it any further unless new evidence comes to light. The contractor for the development will be instructed to cease construction immediately if his workers discover any artifacts and notify the proper authorities, which includes local law enforcement, the county coroner and the Kansas State Historical Society.

One to remember: I have enjoyed giving my CPN history presentations over the past five years, but one that I will remember was the one

I recently gave at the annual meeting of the Wabaunsee County Historical Society. The meeting was held in a recently restored building that had been general store in Volland, Kansas, but it is now almost abandoned. The audience consisted of approximately 80 society members who as a group were very knowledgeable about their local county history. Also in the audience were two CPN members. Obviously the Potawatomi had an early influence on the settlement of the county. Among others this includes Joseph Willmette, who operated a ferry on the Kansas River between Maple Hill and St. Mary's, and Jude Bourassa, who operated grist mills on Mill Creek which transits the county. A large portion of Wabaunsee County was allotted to Potawatomi members after the Treaty of 1861. Needless to say I wasn't going to slip anything past this group. Everything must have

gone well as I received a one year membership to the historical society. For those who may not know that in addition to the county being named after Chief Wabaunsee, there is a township, town and lake named after him. Impressive considering he never set foot in Kansas!

As always, it is my pleasure to serve as your legislative representative.

Migwetch,

Jon Boursaw, *Wetase Mkoh*
CPN District 4 Rep.
(O) 785-861-7272
(C) 785-608-1982
jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org
Office Hours:
Tuesday 9-11 a.m.
Thursday 3-5 p.m.
Other times - Please call



Summer is here!

Hope everyone is out and about with family vacations and fun. These are the memories I have, and I know many of you will agree. No matter how miserable it may seem as a young person, these are the good old days.

This is the time before mortgages, car payments, utility bills and some are probably still paying off their student loans. School is out and you may be wondering how or where you will send your

District 5 - Gene Lambert

young adults to college. You may be considering it yourself. My mother started back to college at 82. She wanted to stay in touch with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her motives didn't have to reflect a new career or position. This is what I want to talk about today.

Education is the one thing you can do for yourself and your children that will determine the level of success you may experience in life. It wasn't that way as I grew up. It was about experience. Now employers want both.

Technology is taking over and we have to decide are we going to go forward with it or is it going to leave us behind.

There are so many opportunities waiting for Native American graduates. The

various tribal communities have been forced to hire non-natives due to a lack of educated tribal members.

Scholarships are running rampant though. You can Google Native American college scholarships and 5,000 sites will appear.

One I wanted to point out in addition to our own CPN scholarship (which you can read about in this edition's CPN Education update) is the "Full Circle Scholarship." It is an American Indian College Fund set up for various types of educational opportunities; from career training to degreed subjects at all levels.

No one wants to do all the paperwork required to take advantage of these opportunities, but may I point out, you are being paid to do it!

That is if you qualify. The scholarship opportunity will tell you what they are looking for in the "perfect situation."

You may need to put thought into the first or second scholarship application and from there you can cut and paste your way to a free, or almost free, education.

There are so many places to look, including State-to-State, Workforce Investment Opportunity Act, Pell Grants, college Scholarships and Native American organizations in your state or community, military options, vocational training or retraining, it can go on and on.

So this summer, while on vacation, why not throw a little scholarship fishing in the mix? Don't be afraid of it. You will not qualify for

every single one, but there is opportunity around every corner.

The other option is get a great education and spend the rest of your life paying for it.

The world of education is "open" for the Native American student! Take advantage of this time. Be there. Be qualified.

Speaking of education, congratulations to D5's Anna Gabriel Bearman (LeClaire) who graduated with a BA in Chemistry from Bowdoin College in May.

Personal regards,
Eunice Imogene Lambert,
(Gene)
euniceilambert@gmail.com



District 6 - Rande K. Payne

Wednesday, July 27 and run through Friday, July 29. The Gathering of Potawatomi Nations runs from Thursday, July 28 through Saturday, July 30.

There will be a wide variety of cultural workshops to attend as well as sporting events. If you've never attended one of these events you might just want to head to Shawnee. You will be overwhelmed with activities and numerous opportunities to engage with our relatives from Kansas, Wisconsin, Michigan and Canada. If dancing is your thing, come get your fill. It is so very moving to be in the arena overflowing with Potawatomi from all over the country and Canada.

I've listed all the participating tribes and their location below. Whether you attend the Gathering or not, I would encourage you to take some time to get on your computer and spend some time researching each of the tribes. Most have websites with at least a brief history of the tribe. I find it fascinating that we were all from the same region roughly 300 years ago. Indian removal scattered us near and far. But through it all we are still *Nishnabe* and we remain.

- Citizen Potawatomi Nation Shawnee, Oklahoma
- Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation - Mayetta, Kansas

- Forest County Potawatomi Crandon, Wisconsin
- Hannahville Indian Community - Wilson, Michigan Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Dowagiac, Michigan
- Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Tribe) Shelbyville, Michigan
- Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi Fulton, Michigan
- Walpole Island First Nation Walpole Island, Ontario, Canada
- Wasauksing First Nation Perry Island, Ontario, Canada

"The definition of tribe is family." Tribal Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett

"God Almighty bless you and give you many children; may you become a great nation of many tribes!" Genesis 28: 3

Migwetch!

Bama pi,
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Mnedo Gabo
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Rande.Payne@potawatomi.org

Bozho Nikanek,

The 2016 Gathering of Potawatomi Nations is upon us. The annual event is hosted by one of the nine Potawatomi tribes with this year's gathering being held at Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Shawnee. The Gathering will kick off with the language conference in the CPN Cultural Heritage Center on



District 7 - Mark Johnson

of old friends while meeting new ones. Things around the Nation never stand still very long, a lot of new construction and improvements have happened in the last year. If you didn't attend this year, find the time in the future and join us in Shawnee over the last weekend in June.

With the Family Festival in the rearview mirror, the Nation will now be hosting the Gathering of Nations, from July 28-3 at the CPN festival grounds with all of our relations from the other Potawatomi Nations. From the language conference to cultural events and governmental meetings, it will be a great time to celebrate our

heritage and gather together as one.

For scholarship applications, see the CPN Department of Education update on page 5 of this paper. Another great educational opportunity that is available to District 7 members is the pre-paid tuition fund at St. Gregory's University in Shawnee. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Development Scholarship Program is open to all tribal members and the program covers tuition, room-and-board and meal plan expenses for both undergraduate and graduate residential programs at St. Gregory's University. Student expenses are limited to some fees and

textbooks costs. For further information contact the CPN Department of Education Director Tesia Zientek by email at tesia.zientek@potawatomi.org or by sending inquiries to college@potawatomi.org. It would be great to see some of our members from District 7 take full advantage of this wonderful opportunity at a higher education.

Once again, I would like to say what an honor it is to serve you as your District 7 representative. As always give me a call and I will be happy to work with you on any questions you may have, or provide you with additional information you may need

to access tribal benefits that you are entitled to. Please also take the time to give me a call or send me an email with your contact information so that I can keep you informed of the happenings within the Nation and district.

Migwetch / Thank You,

Mark Johnson / *Wisk Mtek*
(Strong as a Tree)
Representative, District 7
1565 Shaw Ave., Suite 202
Clovis, CA. 93611
(559) 351-0078 cell
Mark.Johnson@potawatomi.org

Bozho nikanek
Hello Friends,

Another June has passed and so with it another successful Family Reunion Festival. As we gathered together to celebrate our shared heritage and love for our part of the world where our ancestors chose to settle, it was great to see those familiar faces



District 8 - Dave Carney

and under.' We've had all kinds of entries, from hand drums, to eagle feather fans, oil paintings, elk skin dresses and walking sticks.

The contest rules are simple: The artist must be a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the art must have a Native American theme, be brought to the event and be taken home that day. Past winners have been a portrait of our Vice-Chairman Linda Capps (by Steve Lynch), a painting inspired by George Winter's sketches of the removal from Indiana (by George Gragg) and a hand drum by Ginger Blackmon.

During the November 2015 Fall Feast, two founding families were represented by members who gave presentations. The thought is that the stories of a few families are representative of most of us. I have put out a call for anyone who would like to do the

same. I can offer help from some of the staff at the Nation and a District 8 genealogy aficionado. Please let me know if you are interested.

Dates and information are:

Saturday Aug. 6 at 5 p.m.
GFWC Woman's Club of Spokane
1428 W Ninth Ave.,
Spokane, WA 99204

RSVPs are in the mail and due by July 22 for our August 6 gathering in Spokane. Of course, you are welcome if you are traveling through the area and are not a District 8 member.

One of the reasons this venue was selected is because they will make an area available to us for a post-meeting naming ceremony. Several folks living eastern Washington, the Idaho panhandle and Montana have expressed their desire to participate. If



Charrisa Dewitt

you are interested in learning more about receiving a Potawatomi name that evening, please contact me as soon as possible.

Each May and December our tribal newspaper publishes the names of graduates from high school and college. I would like to congratulate two District 8 members on their graduation.

Charrisa Dewitt of Lacey, Washington recently graduated from Timberline High School with honors.

January Bourassa is Oregon's newest doctor of Naturopathic Medicine from The National College of Natural Medicine.

As always it is an honor to serve you as your District 8 legislator, if there is ever any information or questions you may have, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Best Regards,

Dave Carney/*Kagasghi*
dcarney@potawatomi.org
360.259.4027

Bozho, Nikanek

One of the activities that has become a "feature" at District 8 meetings is our Native American art show. This year's gatherings will keep this new tradition going, so if you are planning on coming to the August 6 dinner in Spokane or the annual Fall Feast (this year in Portland) please start preparing your artwork now.

There are always three categories, which upon occasion, is like putting a square peg in a round hole. Those are 'Fine Art,' 'Craft' and '12



District 10 - David Barrett

Mississippi group's "Empty Chair Ceremony".

This was a very sobering time, where we remembered servicemen still missing – all 82,732 of them.

WWI - 3,347

WWII - 73,161 (estimates that over 41,000 of these rest at the bottom of the sea)

Cold War - 126 (5 from Oklahoma)

Korea - 7,818 (152 from Oklahoma)

Vietnam - 1,621

Operation El Dorado Canyon/Libya 1986 - 1

Operation Desert Storm 1991 - 2

Operation Iraqi Freedom 2003-2010 - 3

The empty chairs represent those Americans still missing from each of the five branches of service. The empty chair ceremony symbolizes that they are with us...they are here in spirit.

John F. Kennedy said, "A nation reveals itself not only by the citizens it produces, but also by the citizens it honors and the citizens it remembers."

There was a time, long ago, that our forefathers fought to *provide* us with freedom, and then came wars fought to *preserve* those freedoms.

Today, wars are fought to *protect* that freedom.

Memorial Day and Veterans Day often get confused. Both honor the military in different ways. The website for the United States Department of Veterans Affairs recounts the start of Memorial Day this way: "Three years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1868, the head of an organization of Union veterans - the Grand Army of the Republic - established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. Major General John A. Logan declared that Decoration Day should be observed on May 30. It is believed that date was chosen because flowers should be in bloom all over the country."

The passage of the National Holiday Act of 1971 by Congress made it an official holiday.

Veterans Day, which falls on November 11, is designated as a day to honor all who have served in the military. According to Military.com Veterans Day began as Armistice Day to honor the end of World War I, which officially took place on November 11, 1918.

"In 1954, after having been through both World War II and the Korean War, the 83rd U.S. Congress—at the urg-



The CPN Color Guard with Rolling Thunder representatives.

ing of the veterans service organizations---amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "armistice" and inserting the word "veterans. With the approval of this legislation on June 1, 1954, November 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars."

How disgraceful is it to watch individuals burn our flag in protest. They say it is their right under "freedom of speech." Who do they think paid in full for this "freedom? Don't spit on the honor of veterans who stepped up to the plate to grant this freedom for all (even the ones who disgrace the flag.) Thank a veteran anytime and our active service members when you see them.

Enduring peace has always been tainted by the bitterness of personal sacrifice. We are compelled to never forget that while we enjoy our daily pleasures and freedom, there are others who have endured

and may still be enduring the agonies of pain, deprivation and imprisonment.

I'm looking forward seeing and talking to all our Potawatomi friends coming down for the Gathering, especially when all the Potawatomi nations' veterans brings their eagle staffs and flags into the arena at Grand Entry. This is a sight that will swell up your heart and then all the different regalia that the people are wearing comes into the arena.

It goes without saying, thank you for allowing me to represent you and our great Nation.

Migwetch,

David Barrett/Mnedobe (Sits with the Spirit)
1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, Ok 74801
405-275-3121
District #10
DBarrett@potawatomi.org



District 13 - Bobbi Bowden

now are looking forward to hosting the Gathering of Nations.

The 2016 Gathering will take place in Shawnee, Oklahoma from July 28-30, 2016 and be hosted by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Most events will take place inside the fully air conditioned FireLake Arena! I know we will all appreciate the air conditioning!

The Gathering of Potawatomi Nations is host-

ed each year by one of the nine bands of Potawatomi, providing an opportunity for members of all bands to come together and celebrate their Potawatomi heritage. It includes a language conference, cultural workshops, language classes, cultural classes and sporting events.

Keep watching the web site www.potawatomi.org and the Hownikan for information on The Gathering. If you were unable to attend

the Family Reunion Festival I hope you will try to join us for the Gathering. I am looking forward to meeting members of other bands and learning about their traditions and enterprises.

My deepest heartfelt thanks goes out to each and every tribal employee for your hard work each and every day and especially at this time of the year. Not only are they recovering from the Family Reunion Festival this year

they are preparing for the Gathering. Each year they amaze me and make this one even better than the last!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you as one of your Oklahoma legislative representatives.

Migwetch,

Bobbi Bowden
Peshknokwe
District 13 Representative
Bbowden@potawatomi.org

NATIVE
CEDAR BOXES



CITIZEN POTAWATOMI
GIFT SHOP



Charles Everett "Charlie" House II



Charles Everett "Charlie" House II, age 57 of Henderson, Kentucky went to be with his Lord and Savior on April 12, 2016. He was born in Orlando, Florida on Feb. 10, 1959 to Mary Joann Foster Gilstrap and the late Charles E. House.

He is survived by his loving mother, devoted siblings: Cheryl Thurlow of Sidney, Montana, Deborah Thum of Las Vegas, Nevada, Richard House of New Smyrna Beach, Florida; several nieces and nephews and a host of other family members, friends and loved ones.

Charlie was a proud member and former board member of the Henderson Moose Lodge No. 732. He was a gifted chef, an honorable veteran of the United States Military, a former alcoholic who had achieved nine years of sobriety prior to this passing, an avid supporter of the Florida Gators, a man of tremendous faith, courage and compassion who loved to cook, dance and laugh.

He is remembered for the many generous contributions he made to his family, friends, community and Nation. Charlie will be profoundly missed by all those whose lives were touched by his remarkable presence.

Frederick Henry Hazelton



Frederick Henry Hazelton was born June 28, 1927 in Oklahoma City, a proud American and tribal member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. He passed away, in Schertz, Texas, Feb. 24, 2016 at the age of 88.

Fred enlisted in the Army Air Corps Aug. 1945 and was trained as a cook. He was stationed at Adak Island, Alaska with the 11th Air Force. In April 1947 Fred was honorably discharged and awarded the World War II Victory Medal. In Sept. 1950 Fred reenlisted in the Air Force and was sent to RAF Station Lakenheath, England with the 3710th AB Group.

It was while he was stationed in Lakenheath that he met and married his wife of 51 years, Joyce Hazelton, who preceded him Nov. 12, 2003.

Fred continued in his Air Force career serving overseas during the Korean and the Vietnam conflicts. He finally retired from the Air Force with the rank of Tech Sergeant on Aug. 1, 1969 from Randolph AFB.

Fred was a proud and active member of the Knights of Columbus for 61 years. He joined councils at each duty station he was assigned to while stateside.

Preceding Fred in death are his parents: Frederick K. Hazelton and Clara Agnes Hazelton; and his twin brother: Theodore Charles Hazelton of Oklahoma City.

Fred is survived by his younger brother: Wilbur Clovis Hazelton; eldest son: Robert James Hazelton; daughter: Christine Joan Hazelton; youngest son: Paul Jeffery Hazelton; grandchildren: Christopher Charles Stewart, Miranda Lynn Hazelton, and Sarah Noel Hazelton.

Funeral mass was held at Good Shepard Catholic Church in Schertz on March 4. Interment followed at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery with honor guard and three-volley salute.

Bobby G. Center



Bobby G. Center longtime Shidler resident went home to be with the Lord May 4, 2016 in Stillwater, Oklahoma. He was born on July 22, 1928 to Alger Center and Elizabeth Bourassa Center.

Graveside Services were held Saturday, May 7, 2016 in the Grandview Cemetery of Kaw City, Oklahoma with Pastor Chester Ward of First Baptist Church officiating.

Bobby grew up in Webb City and Shidler and graduated from Shidler High School. He was a member of the Shidler First Baptist Church. Bobby served a tour of duty in the U.S. Army Air Corps and after his service returned to Shidler. He married Eva Mae Crain on Dec. 24, 1952. Bobby worked for Conoco as a lab tech for many years.

Survivors include his daughter and son in law: Jackie and Eddie Bruner of Choctaw; grandchildren: Kaitina Fawn Bruner, Brandon Joe Bruner and Jacob Edward Bruner; great-grandchildren: Lee Bruner, Maddie and Eden Bruner, and Lyla Bruner; cousin: Betty Hancock of Kansas City, Missouri; and several nieces and nephews.

Bobby was preceded in death by his parents, wife in 2013, son, Joe, in 2004 and brother, Bill Center.

Online condolences may be done at gracememorialchapel.net

Rufus Alexander Aker



Rufus Alexander Aker, "Rufe", 88, peacefully passed away May 17, 2016.

Rufe was born on Aug. 29, 1927, in Trosdale, Oklahoma to C.T. "Bill" Aker and Lucille Aker. He was the oldest of three siblings and proud to be a descendant of the Potawatomi Indian tribe. The Dust Bowl brought the family to Visalia, California where Bill was a cotton farmer and Rufe grew up excelling in sports in school.

In June of 1945, Rufe enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He proudly served on the U.S.S. Comfort in the Pacific. During his service, he met Robert Epperson who became a true friend when he introduced Rufe to his sister, Joyce, who became the love of Rufe's life and his wife.

Married in 1948, the couple lived in Visalia where Rufe began a lifelong career in the cotton industry with Anderson Clayton, starting as a cotton gin bookkeeper.

Rufe and Joyce had three daughters, Susan, Gail and Carrie in Visalia and in 1965 moved the family to Phoenix, Arizona. Rufe quickly moved up the management ladder with Anderson Clayton to become President in 1983. He retired in 1992.

Rufe helped to create scholarships for agriculture students in California and worked with the Colorado River Indians to establish a cotton gin. He served on the National Cotton Council of America in various positions including director.

Rufe was an avid golfer and member of the Phoenix Country Club. He enjoyed many fishing trips with his buddies and playing poker in the evenings. Rufe loved teaching his daughters and grandchildren the fine art of card playing. In his later years, Rufe loved playing gin rummy in the card room at the country club. The family spent many wonderful times vacationing in Laguna Beach and Flagstaff.

Rufe was always a gentleman, kind, generous and compassionate. His greatest love was his wife, Joyce for 68 years and his family. He delighted seeing his grandchildren and great-grandchildren playing in the backyard.

Rufe is survived by his wife: Joyce; daughters: Susan Klecka, Gail Creasman (Chuck) and Carrie Adams (Kevin); grandchildren: Amy Hearn (Brad), Christopher Klecka (Kristin), Nate Adams (Alexandra), Kelly Jensen (Nate), Emily Creas-

man and Rebecca Hogan (Kevin); great-grandchildren: Andy and Ava Hearn, Ashlyn, Reid and Beau Klecka, Maddie and Micah Jensen, Connor and Kate Hogan and Ellie Adams; sister: Christine Divine of Visalia; brother: Jack Aker of Scottsdale; numerous nieces and nephews.

Services were held May 21, 2016 at A.L. Moore Grimshaw Mortuary. In lieu of flowers, the family requests a donation to a charity of your choice.

Howard "Frosty" Cavender



Howard "Frosty" Cavender a resident of Durant, Oklahoma passed from this life in Durant on May 16, 2016 at the age of 82. He was born on Aug. 21, 1933 in Konawa, Oklahoma to Claude and Viola (Wolfe) Cavender. Frosty married Carolyn White in Madill, Oklahoma on August 22, 1958.

Frosty served his country in the United States Army as a paratrooper. He was a truck driver for most of his adult life. His greatest joy in his life was his family and grandchildren. Frosty loved being outside working in his garden, raising cattle and later in life he liked to watch game shows.

He is survived by his wife: Carolyn of the home; sons: Michael Cavender and Sandra of Mead, Oklahoma, Steve Cavender of Durant; brothers: Joe Cavender and Vonda, Jimmy Cavender and Judy, Paul Cavender and Carla all of Durant; sister: Norma Pettett and Billy Clyde of Durant; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews, nieces and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Claude and Viola Cavender; brothers: Claude Wayne, Mike, Robert, and Jerry Cavender; sister: Miriam Chandler; grandchild: Kevin Sheffield.

A funeral service was held on Friday, May 20, 2016 at the Holmes Coffey Murray Chapel with Bro. Randy Lewis officiating. Interment followed at Highland Cemetery.

Family and friends may send online condolences and view tributes at www.holmescoffeymurray.com

Submitting obituaries

To submit an obituary, please send a word document with **no more than 300 words**, a 300dpi photo and a contact phone number to hownikan@potawatomi.org.



Leroy Smith was born on Dec. 19, 1927 and passed from this life on April 24, 2016. His life began in Rocky, Oklahoma where he was one of seven children born to DeWitt and Ruby Smith. Early on he learned to hunt and fish and enjoyed these sports his entire life.

In 1946, Leroy joined the United States Army where he served with the 5th Engineer Combat Platoon stationed in Fort Lewis, Washington. Leroy was a Demolition Specialist in the Army where he destroyed and made unserviceable bridges, roads, and buildings by means of explosives. Shortly after basic training, he was transferred to Fairbanks, Alaska where he participated in Task Force Frigid.

Leroy came home from the Army and went to work at Tinker Air Force Base as a welder where he received many commendations for his skills. He met and married Alice Raines and raised two daughters, Nancy and Debra. He and Alice enjoyed 58 years of marriage together prior to Alice's death in 2012.

Leroy loved to tinker in the garage. He was a handyman and a fixer of all things. Nothing pleased him more than to help someone by repairing a lawn mower or welding a broken part. Leroy never met a stranger and was loved by all he met. Saying that he liked to talk is an understatement. No matter where he went he could find someone to talk with. He could talk about anything; politics, the stock market, current events or the Bible. Before the encounter ended he would know your life story, if you needed something and he would be searching for a way to get what you needed. Because he talked so much, he always had a story to tell and knew people from all over Oklahoma City and Edmond. Leroy was adventurous and always willing to try something new. His senses remained sharp as he aged, permitting him to kill his first deer at the age of 77. He was really proud of that deer.

Leroy loved his family. He was a wonderful provider to his wife and children and was always there to give support and encouragement through the good times and the bad. He loved his brothers and sisters and enjoyed running around with them in his younger days and visiting with them as he aged. His favorite vacations were those where the entire Smith clan (dad, mom, brothers, sisters, wives, husbands, and all the kids) pulled out the tents and fishing poles and camped out at the lake for

a week. He particularly enjoyed fishing with his dad and brothers.

Leroy was an optimistic and happy person who never had a bad day. Regardless of the circumstances, he could find something to lighten the mood, make us laugh, and encourage us to move forward. Leroy was steadfast in his faith and often spoke of his Savior, Jesus Christ. He was a member of Classen Boulevard Baptist Church for many years. Leroy taught us honesty, integrity and compassion. His life exemplified goodness in everything he did or said. The world is a sadder place today due to the loss of our precious father, grandfather, brother, uncle, neighbor and friend. He will forever remain in our hearts.

Leroy is preceded in death by his wife: Alice; sisters: Margaret Clark and Beverly Taylor; brothers: Bob Smith and John D. Smith. He is survived by his children: Nancy Atkinson and husband Jack, and Debra Shuffield; grandchildren: Kristina Morel and Matthew Morel; great-grandchild: Molly Morel; sister: Shirley Collins and husband Floyd; brother: Gary "Bud" Smith and wife Jeanine; and a host of nephews and nieces.



Betty McGlothlin Armstrong was born Sept. 8, 1922. She passed away on March 30, 2016 at Rowntree Gardens Senior Living facility in Stanton, California from Alzheimer's disease.

She is survived by her son, Walter John Hillabrant and "daughter-in-love" Judy Hillabrant, two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Betty was enrolled in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, a member of the Darling family. She was known for her support of Native American causes, civil rights, opposition to war and imperialism. She was a strong

advocate of women's rights and opponent of discrimination based on race, ethnicity and gender.

Betty easily made friends and expressed appreciation to and of Rowntree staff as well as to the Faithful Friends caregivers. She often expressed compliments or kind words of greeting to residents and staff. Betty was a "card shark" specializing in bridge and she was a tough poker player too. One of the many things that enriched her life was singing and she was a happy participant in the Red Hat Singers at Rowntree.

Over her 93 years, she lived in Texas, Utah, Colorado, and California. She loved southern California and declared that it had the best climate in the United States. Betty loved to travel and visited Australia, Canada, China, Europe, Russia, Mexico and Cuba.

In her youth, she was a "tomboy." She allowed that she could outshoot, outride, and "out-cuss" pretty much any man she knew. In her youth, Betty won barrel-racing contests on her quarter horse "Tiny."

Betty and her family request that, in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to:

Native Alliance Against Violence
300 Kellogg Dr.
Boomer Outreach Building 136
Norman, Oklahoma 73072
405-325-4070.



Dr. Francis Andrew Levier Ph.D. passed away May 8, 2016 in Reno, Nevada with his sister Atha at his side.

Francis attended grade school and high school at St. Paul's Indian Mission in Marty, South Dakota. He

graduated from Hofstra University in New York City. He received his Master Degree and Ph.D. from the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas. He was dean of students at KU. He also worked for the CPN tribe of Oklahoma.

Francis was preceded in death by his parents: Joseph Paul Levier and Nova Candiff Ward; siblings: Charles Levier, Cletus Levier, Joan Lero, and Randy Thompson.

Survivors: Judy Levier Sebo of Los Lunas, New Mexico, Mike Levier and Family of Topeka, Atha Kerr and Family of Reno, Nevada, Susan Mire and Jeanette from Vivian, Louisiana. Tammy Meeker and Family of Si-loam Springs, Arkansas.

Lapaloma Funeral home in Reno, Nevada was in charge of cremation. A memorial service was held in Kansas and internment at Shipshee Cemetery on the Potawatomi Indian Reservation in Kansas.



Elizabeth Ann (Wood) Whittle, 91, of Pompano Beach, Florida passed away June 7, 2016. She was married to Bob Whittle Sr. for 50 years. He predeceased her in 1993.

She was a past president of the Does Auxiliary, Pompano Beach. She was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

She is survived by sons: Robert of California and Michael of New Jersey; sisters: Agnes of Cape Coral, Florida and Virginia of Leesburg, Florida; seven grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Burial was held on June 11, 2016 at Forest Lawn in Pompano Beach.

CPN burial assistance through Tribal Rolls

The \$2,000 CPN Burial Assistance Fund is automatically available to all enrolled CPN members. You may fill out a burial assistance fund form if you would like for us to keep it on file in case of any change in resolutions.

Please note: Once a CPN Tribal member has passed, the Tribal Rolls office must

be notified in order for CPN to provide burial funding. Information and instructions for the burial process will be sent to the next of kin and will be discussed then.

For more information please call Tribal Rolls at 405-878-5835 or email CClark@Potawatomi.org.